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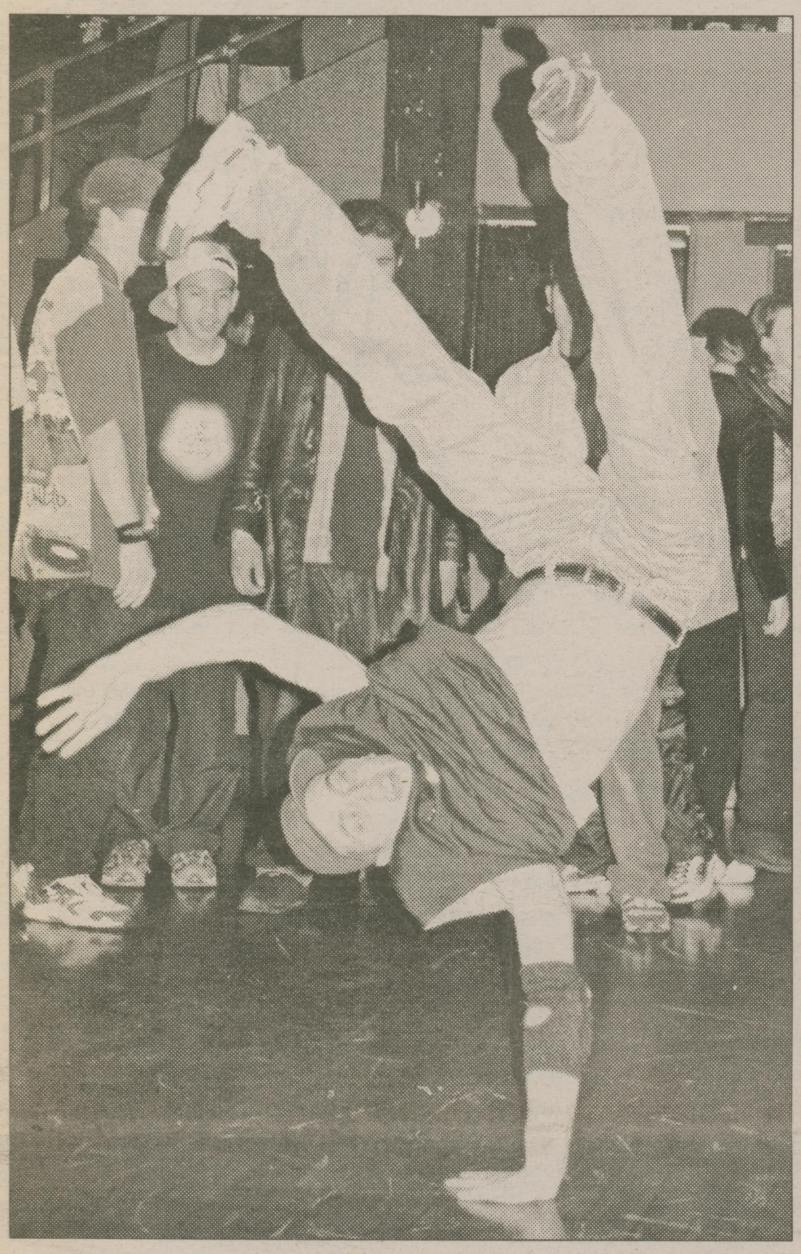

photos by Sarah Glen

Royale breakdancing competition

Anonymous breakers show dancing with or without arms can be fun. These flexible boys were spotted spinning their bodies to the hip-hop beats at a breakdancing competition hosted by Reverb Productions at Sugar on Jan. 17. Over 400 people turned out to watch about 20 breakers take over the floor.

Read more about the event in Arts, page 10.

Student employment programs axed by B.C. government

by John Thompson

The provincial government's deep cuts to government programs and services will affect hundreds of student jobs on campus.

The government axed a long list of student employment programs, including the Work Study, Student Summer Works and Youth Community Action programs, on "Black Thursday," Jan. 17.

Work Study alone supported around 400 jobs at UVic. Existing jobs continue until the end of the academic year when the program will be discontinued.

"The loss of Work Study is just huge," said Jennifer Margison, manager of UVic Career Services.

Work Study supported a wide variety of jobs on campus, from the Vikes' ticket booths to UVic's science labs and theatre productions.

Brendan Van Deusen, a fourth-year theatre student with a Work Study position, said the Phoenix Theatre uses Work Study to help build costumes and sets, operate the box office and fill odd jobs.

He's worried that losing the program will make theatre productions leaner.

"They'll have to strip down the shows a lot," he said.

Van Deusen depends on his own Work Study position to offset the costs of living his student loan doesn't cover.

Similarly, Katrina Herriot, a fourth-year biology student, was angry and frustrated Work Study was eliminated.

"That's ridiculous," she said. "I'd like experience working in a lab before I get into the workforce."

Student employment will also be affected by the loss of Student Summer Works, which subsidized employers by paying up to $4 an hour of students, wages, at a cost of $8.9 million.

The program provided 5,327 student jobs across B.C. but was discontinued because the provincial government considers it an unfair business subsidy.

Margison said the government misrepresented the program.

"They're categorizing Student Summer Works as an unfair subsidy to some businesses, which was not the program's purpose," she said. She added that non-profit organizations have used this program a lot.

The Youth Community Action program (YCA) was discontinued as well. The program provided students with tuition credits for working in community agencies.

The combined loss of these programs will be felt by many student organizations on campus, like CFUV Radio, which uses five Work Study positions for volunteer training, audio production and producing the station's magazine, Offbeat.

The station also uses two Student Summer Works positions and one YCAP position during its summer operation.

Sharmeen Khan, station manager for CFUV, said she hopes other forms of funding will fill in the loss, but said the station will be stretched.

"We're going to be hit pretty hard," she said.

Different organizations in the Student Union Building (SUB) employ 36 Work Study positions.

Karen Whyte, the Arts and Professional Writing co-op coordinator, also said she hopes an increase in federal funding will help offset the loss of the employment programs. Still, she expects fewer jobs posted from the provincial government, non-profit organizations and arts-related employers.

"It's going to be a very tough year for students to find jobs, especially if they want to find jobs here in Victoria," she said.

"We're concerned it's going to be hard for employers to hire students."

Jaime Matten, chairperson of the UVic Student Society (UVSS), said a number of other important programs have been cut, like Job Start, which helped people coming off welfare find employment.

She also questioned whether the government will axe apprenticeships as well.

Along with the cuts, the BC Liberals disbanded the Industry Training Apprenticeships Commission (ITAC), but funding will continue. Without the ITAC, Matten is wary ITAC's budget will be siphoned into other areas.

ITAC oversaw the creation of apprenticeships.

"How are apprenticeships going to be regulated? Who's holding them accountable?" she asked.

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Activism under fire

by Brodie Waddell

Dissent could be considered terrorism for campus activists planning to make the trip to the G-8 summit this summer.

People from all over the world are expected to protest the Group of Eight leaders' conference in Kananaskis, Alberta.

Activists aim to draw attention to the disparities of global wealth and what they argue is a flawed international economic system.

The G-8 is a group made up of the eight most economically powerful countries' leaders.

But the recent omnibus security legislation pushed through parliament in the wake of the Sept. 11 World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks may redefine protesters as terrorists.

The new security bills worry most civil libertarians and members of the activist community because they feel these bills will give the police and intelligence services too much power.

"We have changed the whole tenure of the legal system at the behest of the United States," said Larry Hannant, a UVic history professor. "This legislation has shifted the entire legal balance of power."

According to Hannant, most of the bills' effects will be felt by minorities like Muslim and Arab Canadians, but they could also intimidate many otherwise vocal dissenters.

One of the new security bills, C-42, designates foreign delegates at international summits, like the one in Kananaskis, as people who cannot be interfered with.

This means groups like the Raging Grannies, who may obstruct delegates by blocking an access road to the meeting, might fall under the definition of 'terrorist' and face up to 14 years in prison, said Hannant.

"The tone in this country has changed," he said. "It's beginning to feel like the mentality of the early Cold War."

Besides the new legislation, campus protesters have seen the rebirth of the peace movement.

The US bombings in Afghanistan have brought the anti-war activists into the streets.

The hundreds of students who marched at "Walk-Out for Peace" on Nov. 29 witnessed a turnout that has not been seen at anti-war demonstrations in years.

However, according to graduate student Gabe Haythorn, the aftermath of the WTC bombings caused a deep split in the protest movement.

"Some people have taken a conciliatory stance [with the government] and dropped out of the coalition," said Haythorn. "Labour, for example, has pulled out and sided with the [US president George W.] Bush policy."

This split also cost the movement both the financial and moral support of moderates, which weakened it significantly, said Haythorn.

Another UVic student, Andre Vallille, worried police will not have enough checks on their authority when they meet activists in Alberta.

"Quebec City was bad enough, Kananaskis could be worse."

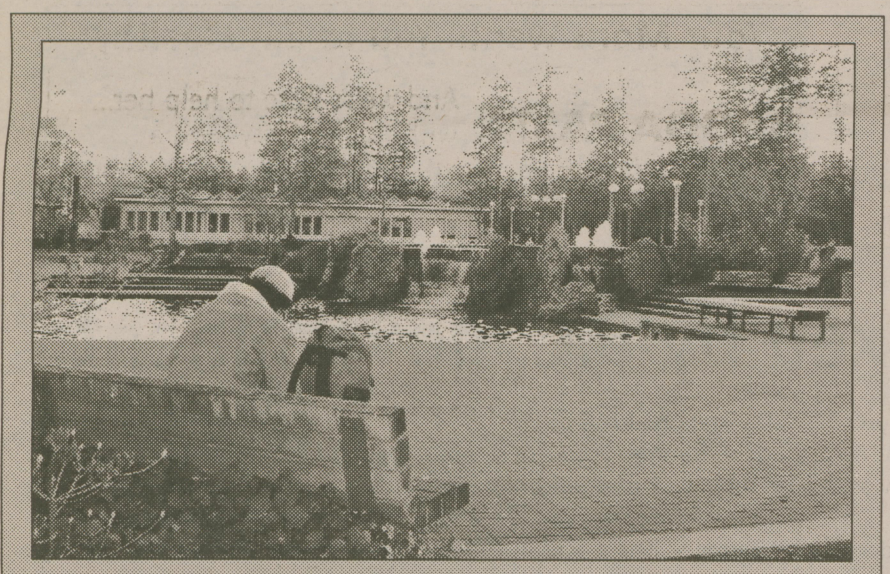


photo by Suzanne Beaubien

Abundant rainfall brought water back to the UVic fountain, for good.

Co-op future bleak after cuts

by Brooke Taylor

UVic's co-op students will find it increasingly difficult to find a job after last week's massive government cutbacks.

Elizabeth Grove-White, executive director of the co-op program, said provincial government cutbacks will adversely affect the co-op programs at UVic.

"The number of co-op opportunities in the provincial government is likely to decline in the next six months and cutting Student Summer Works funding will affect small organizations who rely on funding," said Grove-White.

Arts and Writing co-op coordinator Karen Whyte also anticipates greater difficulty for students in getting jobs in the private and non-profit sectors.

Student Summer Works paid up to four dollars an hour to help non-profit organizations and small businesses hire students. The loss of this program means many jobs in the arts, administration and museums simply won't exist this summer, said Whyte.

"The loss of these opportunities could be crippling to the co-op program," said Lindsay Baker, a UVic Arts and Writing co-op student. "The problem also extends beyond the potential loss of co-op jobs in the government sector. Many co-op jobs in the non-profit sector were funded through government-subsidized youth employment programs."

Because of the cuts, Baker is now looking for her next co-op term elsewhere.

"I am seriously considering moving out of B.C. or even overseas. I love B.C. and do not necessarily want to move away from all my friends and family but I feel I have been left with no choice."

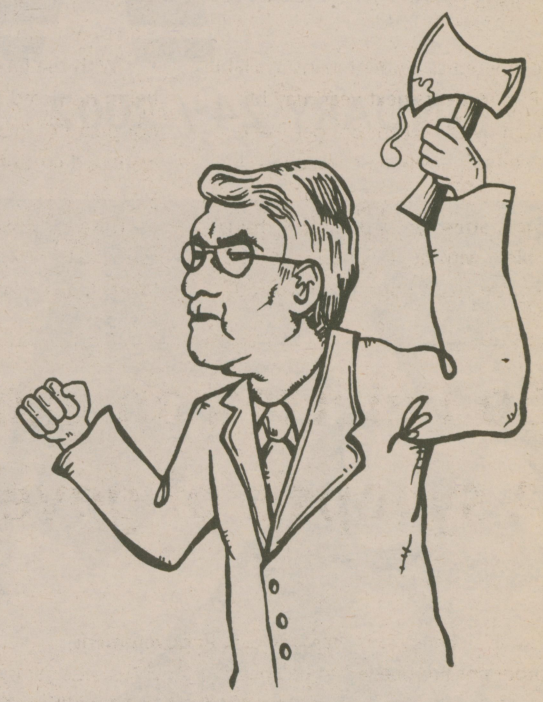
Grove-White said it is difficult to determine which faculty's co-op program will be most affected. She believes engineering, computer science and law will likely be least affected because most of their employers are in the private sector. While these faculties may weather the recent government cuts, they will be affected by the general downturn in the province's economy, she said.

"I am very concerned and scared about the idea of competing for jobs with former government workers who possess years and years of work experience. With the axing of many youth employment programs, which at least gave us some opportunities to find meaningful, degree-related work experience, how do we stand a chance?" said Baker.

Whyte remains optimistic, noting co-op students look for temporary work and contracts, whereas government employees look to replace lost full-time jobs.

The co-op program does encourage students to develop at least one of their five work terms on their own. Many employees who are not involved with the program welcome the opportunity to hire skilled students looking to create their own co-op jobs.

"I definitely think co-op students should develop their own jobs," said Baker. "Learning how to search for your own co-op job gives you valuable work search skills you will be glad to have once graduation is looming."



graphic by Joanna Wong

But another co-op student is wary to predict the future of her co-op placement.

"There is no way of knowing at the moment if the loss of so many full-time jobs will mean an increase in short term contracts like a co-op, or if this market will be considerably diminished in general," said Monica Nelson. "A co-op position can lead to future employment with the employer so it has a fall-out effect both now and also after graduation."

With all four major universities and 14 other post-secondary institutions in B.C. offering co-ops, students develop practical workplace experience, which better prepares them for entry into the job market upon graduation.

"B.C. is probably the most successful co-op province in Canada," said Grove-White.

The placement percentage for UVic co-op students is high. For 2001, it was up three per cent.

"Most students are placed," said Grove-White. "We're all facing a big challenge in the immediate future, but in the long term, prospects have never been better for co-op."

Federal government opportunities are increasing in Vancouver, Victoria and Ottawa and will help to offset the provincial government cuts, said Grove-White and Whyte.

"The federal government has an overt commitment to hiring co-op students and recruiting graduates," said Whyte. "But this summer is still going to be a tough one for students. Once the dust settles, managers may be able to hire students depending on their budgets."

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Frozen education budget leaves student loans in limbo

by Shana Heiser

The amount of student loans available to B.C. students next year may be limited by the recent budget freeze.

Nothing has been finalized in the government's budget but UVSS Chair Jaime Matten sees a potentially huge problem with the finite budget that goes into effect this fall term. She worries the loans may be given out on a first-come-first-served basis.

"With the financial aid budget being restricted, chances are loans are not going to increase to cover the increased cost of education," Matten said.

This year's budget is based on an estimate of how many students need loans, Matten said, and there are always extra funds if necessary.

Beginning next year, however, the budget is fixed, so many students may be out of luck securing a loan.

"In January, if a student decides to apply for a student loan (and the money is gone), the choice becomes dropping out of school or picking up more jobs," Matten said.

UVic's Financial Aid Director Janice Burke said she hadn't been advised of any definitive numbers for next year's student loan programs or UVic's budget.

"I don't know where this doom and gloom is coming from," Burke said. "In terms of anything relating to the UVic budget, I can't comment on those things. I honestly don't know and I can't verify any information."

Second-year psychology student Lisa Knauf might take a year off to work if she cannot get loans next year.

"It will be a lot harder to take the number of classes I want to take, because I'll need a part-time job," Knauf said. "This year, with loans and grants, it was enough. If tuition goes up, it's going to be a lot harder because I'm barely scraping by as it is."

While the BC Liberals have already elected to end the Work Study program across the province beginning next year, Burke reassured students the program will last until the end of this term.

"The work study program that is in place for this year will remain the same," Burke said. "The money has already come in from the government for this year, up until April 30."

The only options for students who do not receive enough loan money will be to get a job or two, which will make school less of a priority, Matten said.

"In a time where the economy is not booming, the way to restore an economy is by educating the population, not by making tax cuts," Matten said. "They [students] are the future doctors and business leaders that make an economy thrive."

The anonymous BC Liberals' spokesperson emphasized there has been no final announcement of financial cuts, but she said the ministry has to work within its budget.

With the frozen budget as another potential obstacle for students, Matten said the results could force many students out of school.

"Decisions like this are based on the myth that students live some luxurious existence," she said. "Students don't have money lying around – they do it on the bare minimum."

The Ministry of Advanced Education, which distributes student loans, will work with a flat budget for the next three years, said a media relations officer who declined to give her name.

"Over the next two years the ministry will rationalize student financial aid programs by combining them into a more coherent, understandable plan," she said. "I can't give you any details about that right now."

So I elected an axe-murderer: A synopsis of government cuts in B.C.

by John Thompson

The BC Liberals said dramatic cuts to government programs are needed to balance the provincial budget by 2004 and eliminate "a structural deficit" of $3.8 billion. To achieve this goal, it plans to eliminate as many as 11,700 public-service jobs by 2005 – nearly one-third of the 34,000 public-service employees across the province. The total savings from the cuts is estimated to be $1.9 billion over three years.

Below is a sampling of some of the main programs, services and operations sliced by the government, Jan. 17.

Student employment programs cut

- Work Study
- Student Summer Work
- Job Start
- Youth Community Action Program
- Skills for Employment
- Institutional Based Training Support
- Graduate Assistanceships
- Labour Adjustment Envelope
- New Learning Opportunities Envelope
- College and Institutes Matching Endowment
- Training Assistance Benefits
- Environmental Youth Teams (E-Teams)
- Public Sector Youth Program
- ITAC (Industry Training Apprenticeship Commission), disbanded

Impact on advanced education

- Work Study, Student Summer Works and Youth Community Action programs have all been eliminated. Work Study was funded with $4.2 million annually.
- The Graduates Assistantships program is gone. It provided $500,000 annually to UVic to subsidize funding for 500 to 600 graduate teaching assistants.
- Funding for Advanced Education is frozen at $1.9 billion for the next three years and the tuition freeze is currently under review.

Some other effects of the cuts

- Bus-pass subsidies for seniors and the disabled will be discontinued.
- Single, employable welfare recipients will only be eligible for assistance two years for every five. Single mothers with children older than three years old will be taken off welfare. Currently, they can remain on assistance until their children are seven years old.
- Almost one-third of the province's courthouses will be closed – 24 of 68. On Vancouver Island the newly renovated Parksville courthouse will be shut.
- Eight provincial jails will be closed, including the Burnaby Correction Centre for Women. In some cases low-risk offenders will be transferred to jails with higher-risk offenders. Prisoners will double-bunk. Legal Aid and Victim Services funding will be reduced.
- The Health Ministry will lose 854 employees, including 37 paramedics, over three years. In Victoria, walk-in service for Medical Services Plan and Pharmacare clients will be closed in May.
- Various programs for community probation and drug- and alcohol-abuse rehabilitation will be discontinued.
- The Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection (formerly the Environment Ministry) will have its workforce cut by one-third, or 400 jobs. It will no longer respond to environmental concerns or human-wildlife conflicts considered "low-risk." The cost of camping and recreational facilities is also expected to rise.
- The Ministry of Forests' workforce will be cut by 35 per cent, or 1,433 full-time positions by 2005. In Victoria there will be around 300 lost jobs and the Cobble Hill and Quinsam seed orchards will be closed. Regional offices in Nelson, Williams Lake and Smithers will be shut, along with 11 district offices around B.C.
- The Transportation Ministry will lose more than 61 per cent of its workforce, with over 1,400 job losses expected. Highway pull-outs will be privatized and made available on a user-fee basis.

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National News Briefs

Transvestite hopes to head Alliance

by Mark Greenan

OTTAWA (CUP) – Toronto transvestite Enza "Supermodel" Anderson is hoping her "100% Great Legs" can carry her into the House of Commons.

Enza, who touts herself as Canada's premier drag queen politician, is running for the leadership of the Canadian Alliance Party.

While the Alliance and its predecessor the Reform Party are not receptive to gay rights, this doesn't worry the leadership hopeful.

"This is a great opportunity to bring the Alliance out of the closet to show their true colours. Having a drag queen as leader would show that the Alliance is an open and inclusive party," said Enza.

Enza said the Alliance needs a makeover if it is to form the government.

"If the Canadian Alliance wants to be a national party and be the next government, it has to work on its image so it's not seen as bigoted and homophobic."

The candidate admits she is strongly opposed to many Alliance policies.

"I'm sacrificing my principles here, but when you want to change something, you have to do it from the inside."

For Enza, unity among opposition parties is key. She is open to cooperation with the Progressive Conservative party and their leader Joe Clark.

"The opposition has to form a coalition if they're going to hold the Liberals to account," she said. "Besides, I think Joe Clark and I would look good in dresses."

Rallying against privatization

by Roberto Rocha

MONTREAL (CUP) – University students must move to resist the increasing privatization of Canadian universities, a panel advised McGill University, Jan. 16.

The critical discussion entitled "Whose University? Democracy, Privatization and Corporate Power" was sponsored by McGill's student union and a student organization called Grassroots Association for Student Power (GRASP).

David Bernans, researcher for Concordia University's student union, addressed the conflict raised by the use of public institutions by private companies for personal research.

"Formally, educational institutions are public property but they conduct research for the benefit of the private sector," he said.

Bernans argued as corporate funding becomes a lifeline for universities, research and critical discussion of private involvement is systematically suppressed.

Bernans cited the 1998 case of Dr. Nancy Olivieri at the University of Toronto. Olivieri was fired from her research position after warning patients about the dangerous side effects of an experimental drug manufactured by Apotex Inc., a company that has millions of dollars invested in U of T.

Erika Shaker, education project director at the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives in Ottawa, addressed the rationalizations that allow corporations to enter the public realm.

"Corporations say that privatization enhances education and justify it by saying that a flawed public system demands a private one," Shaker said.

Shaker denounced tuition hikes as decreasing the accessibility of education.

"There is no just system of education that confines its admissions on the basis of privilege, not right. If education is not affordable, it reinforces socioeconomic inequities," she said.

Political science professor Sam Noumoff argued that with government cutbacks, outstanding debt and an absence of selfless philanthropy, McGill is left with few options for funding.

According to Noumoff, corporate presence in universities erodes objectivity, distorts curriculum and places more emphasis on technological sciences.

graphic by Joanna Wong

Education next issue in Ontario's election

by Shawn Jeffords

TORONTO (CUP) – Students, faculty and opposition parties in Ontario are rushing to finalize plans to make post-secondary education a major issue in the coming provincial election.

Since Premier Mike Harris's resignation, opposition parties and provincial lobby groups have accelerated plans for the next election. Many expect when the Conservative leadership race is finished, a snap election will be called for the summer.

However, some wonder if they'll be prepared by the time the election rolls around.

"It's hard to keep the momentum going," said Pam Frache, government relations coordinator of the Canadian Federation of Students. "The election will likely come in the summer and that traditionally is when students are working to make money for school and not worrying about politics."

But Frache said stakes are higher for students this time around and is confident their participation will be strong.

"I think people really took notice when the government announced they were considering deregulating tuition at Queen's University," said Frache. "We're really fighting for the future of public education at this point."

Henry Jacek, president of the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations, thinks part of the problem is that post-secondary education is not at the forefront of most voters' minds.

"The government has been able to cut at the university level because people are focused on elementary schools," said Jacek.

Although OCUFA does not endorse any one candidate, Jacek said Harris failed to understand the importance of post-secondary education.

"To him, it was as if post-secondary education doesn't exist," said Jacek. "He has no idea how much universities mean to people."

Tibetan political prisoner released

by Jeff Andrew

Ngawang Choephel, a Tibetan ethno-musicologist imprisoned in Tibet since 1995, was released on medical parole, Jan. 20.

His release came after six years of intensive campaigning, letter-writing and lobbying of the Chinese government by an international network of human-rights groups, including the UVic chapter of Students For A Free Tibet (SFT).

"The campaign for Ngawang Choephel's medical parole has ended successfully today in a clear vindication of the worldwide efforts of so many to help secure his release," said John Ackerly, president of the International Campaign for Tibet.

Born in Tibet, the 35-year-old Choephel fled the country with his mother at the age of two and was raised in India. A gifted musician, he attended and later taught at the Tibetan Institute for the Performing Arts in Dharamsala, India.

In 1995 the former Fulbright scholar re-entered Tibet with a video camera to record traditional Tibetan folk singing and dancing and was promptly arrested by the Chinese and charged with espionage. He was convicted and sentenced to 18 years in prison.

Choephel's arrest sparked a worldwide campaign to win his freedom and raise awareness of other Tibetan political prisoners.

On campus, SFT sent out e-mails, distributed brochures and collected more than 200 signatures last October on a petition. The petition was sent to Victoria MP David Anderson, asking the Canadian government to push for Choephel's release.

Sanctions strangling Iraqis

by Miguel MacDonald

Some 250 Victorians packed UVic's Elliot lecture hall to hear British MP and activist George Galloway speak last Thursday, Jan.17.

The senior vice chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party said western foreign policy and apathy among British, Canadian and American citizens, as well as their allies, is choking Iraqi, Palestinian and Afghan people.

"The world has an Anglo-Saxon problem and we are it," said Galloway, MP for Glasgow Kelvin. The Sept. 11 attack on the World Trade Center could be the beginning of even larger attacks, he cautioned.

"The Afghan atrocity has already been committed," Galloway said. "We've created 10,000 Osama bin Ladens."

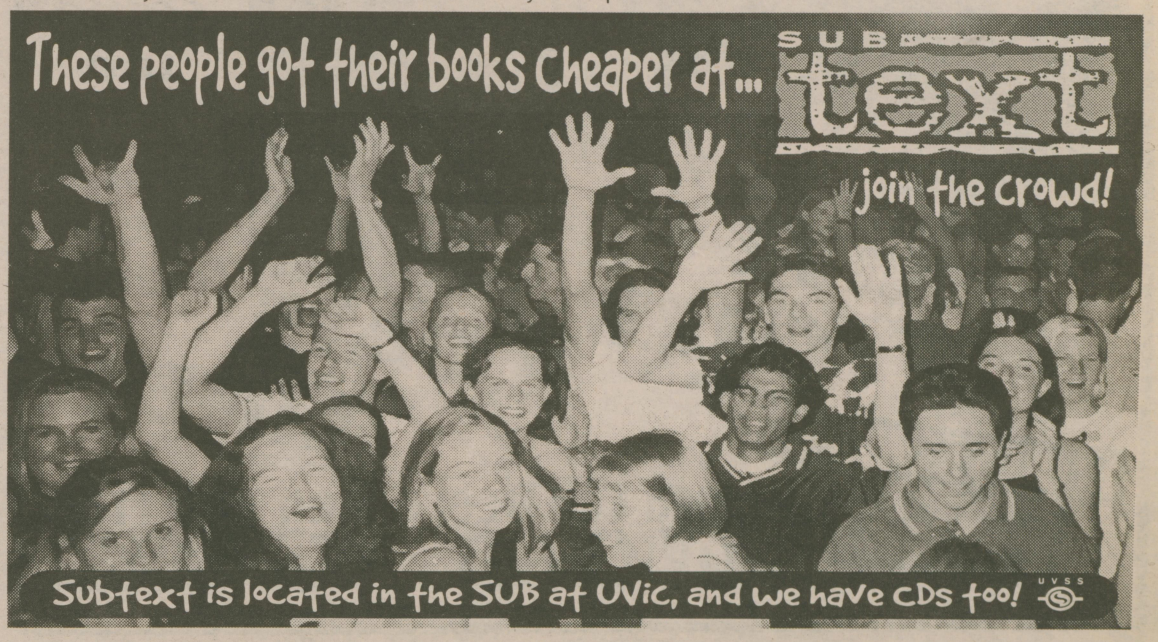
He also discussed American trade sanctions against Iraq. Imposed since the end of the Gulf war, the sanctions have only injured the Iraqi people, he said. Galloway described an Iraqi hospital he visited in the mid-1990s.

"The hospital is full of flies. Why? Because the windows are open. Why? Because the aircon is broken. Why? Because under the sanctions, air conditioner parts are banned," Galloway said. "Anything that is not food or medicine is banned."

Anaesthetics, soap, IV fluid and vitamins are all banned under the sanctions.

Children are especially vulnerable. Iraq has seen a 900 per cent increase in childhood cancers in the years following the Gulf War. Every month as many as 6000 Iraqi children die as a result of the sanctions and the breakdown of uranium in the environment. Uranium was used to harden the steel of American missiles.

"The rate of deformity in Iraqi children is at a rate that has never before been seen," Galloway said. "We're the ones doing it. If we don't change course the hatred can only worsen."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UVSS

Recycled paper jams SUB

by Jeffrey Werner

Weyerhaeuser paper may continue to reign supreme in UVic's computer printers, photocopiers and classrooms despite pressure from the UVic Sustainability Project (UVSP) to find an alternative source.

The Weyerhaeuser debate heated up last October when the UVic Students Society (UVSS) said it planned to stop selling Weyerhaeuser paper in the SUB. Weyerhaeuser came under fire for its logging practices.

"We don't know how much paper is consumed, or how much paper consumption has decreased (at the university)," said Chris Woolgar, UVSP's paper alternatives coordinator.

UVSS Academic Director Sarah Webb said the issue is still debated as the society waits for samples from alternative suppliers.

She said the UVSS environment committee will be meeting throughout January and will "talk about the Weyerhaeuser paper."

There are still no firm indications the SUB will abandon the world's largest paper producer.

Amy Chen, a supervisor at ZAP copy centre in the SUB, said the surprise UVSS deficit in October muted the issue.

"There was a big pump to get the SUB totally environmentally friendly, but after the financial shortfall that pump has kind of died," said Chen.

Only one of ZAP's self-serve photocopiers uses tree-free paper, costing students nine cents per copy. The other machines all run Weyerhaeuser's 30-per-cent-recycled-content paper and cost students seven cents a page.

While photocopiers exist that are designed for recycled paper, they're expensive, Chen said.

"ZAP can barely afford to replace the regular copiers."

ZAP manager Al Bishop said fully-recycled paper costs 30 per cent more than regular paper and jams the machines more, while tree-free paper is more than three times the cost.

Supply is another reason for limiting alternative paper, he said.

ZAP once tried buying a 100-per-cent recycled paper out of Ontario, but couldn't meet its one-ton per month average because shipments only arrived once or twice a month.

"It's next day service with Weyerhaeuser," said Bishop. "The bottom line for ZAP hinges on the business not spending more than it makes."

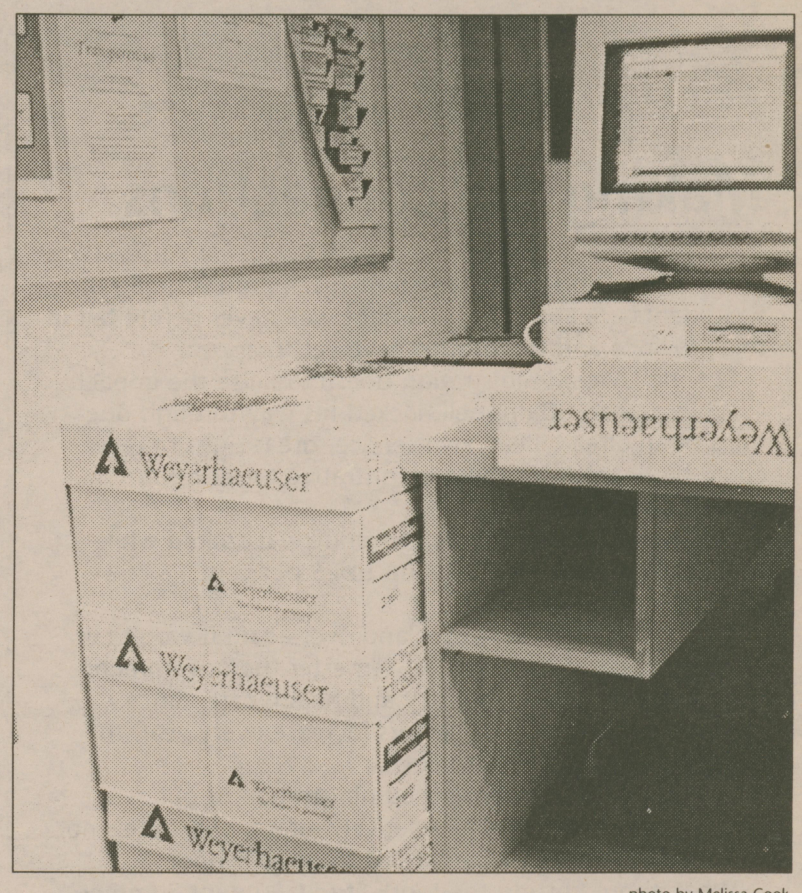

photo by Melissa Cook

Paper Problems: Weyerhaeuser weighs in heavily across campus, despite a movement to use recycled paper.

If the UVSS environment committee decides to drop Weyerhaeuser paper in the SUB, Bishop will follow suit.

"I'll do what they want because they're my boss," said Bishop.

For now, Woolgar and the UVSP want the university computer labs to use recycled paper – Weyerhaeuser or not.

When a student prints an assignment at UVic, it's usually on non-recycled paper. Some printers on campus, like in the Clearihue lab, do print on semi-recycled paper, which recently made the jump from 10- to 30- per-cent-recycled content.

The computer lab would not comment on the issue.

National editorials on media mogul's terms

by Kevin Groves

Journalists teaching on campus have added their voices to the growing tide of criticism against the Asper family's national editorial policy.

"What we're seeing now is not broad views of the world but rather self-serving views, which seem to be in concert with [the Aspers'] economic and political interests," said Cameron Young, a UVic journalism professor and one of the many journalists across Canada concerned with the dictated national editorial policy.

The Asper's CanWest-Global chain now requires all of its major metropolitan newspapers to run up to three "national editorials" from the company's Winnipeg head office each week.

Bought out from Hollinger International's Canadian newspaper and Internet assets in November of 2000, CanWest-Global owns 14 major metropolitan newspapers, 126 community newspapers and *The National Post*.

Since Dec. 6 when the first of the mandatory editorials was published, CanWest-Global's journalists have been forbidden to contradict opinions conveyed in the national editorials. Any stories or columns mentioning Israel must be cleared with the head office before publication.

Lynne Van Luven, another UVic journalism professor, said the new policy makes sense from a corporate perspective but undermines a newspaper's responsibility to the local community.

"If I live in Winnipeg and write an editorial about an issue, it may or may not be relevant to readers in Halifax or Victoria," she said. "Obviously, someone is not going to be served well."

Young agreed and said dictating national views in CanWest-owned newspapers does not constitute an attack on freedom of the press as long as the views in those papers are suitably diverse.

Murdoch Davis, editor-in-chief of Southam newspapers, could not be reached for comment. He writes all of the national editorials.

Van Luven said the new editorial policy will pressure journalists working for CanWest owned papers to avoid speaking out about policies or editorial stances they don't agree with.

"How heroic are you going to be if you need to feed your family or pay your mortgage?" Van Luven asked. "You're probably not going to speak out, and if this trend continues, Conrad Black is going to look like a pretty nice guy."

Black owned half of Canada's newspapers before selling them to the Asper family. He was often criticized for using his media ownership to back personal political opinions.

Young worries the growing tendency for local editors to send columns and editorials to CanWest's head office constitutes censorship.

Still, Young doesn't feel more CanWest columnists will follow Stephen Kimber's lead, the ex-*Halifax Daily News* columnist who resigned after one of his columns was also pulled.

"A number of commentators who are part of the media establishment are coming forward now who are upset by this trend, so it's reached a level beyond the radical fringe," he said.

Mary Griffin, a spokeswoman for the Victoria branch of the Canadian Association of Journalists (CAJ), added her organization plans to discuss media ownership in Canada at an upcoming conference in Ottawa.

"It's about time a commission on the concentration of media ownership and its ramifications was set up in Canada, because this issue isn't being dealt with by the federal government," Griffin said.

Alisa Gordaneer, editor of *Monday Magazine*, said local alternative media continues to offer a different editorial perspective from the Asper family's stance.

"We certainly aren't going to have any national editorials here anytime soon," she said.

CanWest-Global also holds major interests in Australia, New Zealand, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland's media.

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EDITORIAL

Making the connections

Loans are getting harder to come by. Tuition is going up.

Students are about to hit a debt wall never before felt in this province and the bruises have yet to appear.

But the UVic administration doesn't realize the impact.

While Gordon Campbell hacked his way through one-third of an already lean civil service, great sighs of relief could be heard from the administrative turret of our province's universities.

"Thank God our ministry's revenue was spared while other ministries were cut by up to 25 per cent."

What are they thinking?

The government said over and over again it won't cut funding to education, yet last semester the government froze funding to that ministry and health care. Since operating costs for both sectors increase every year, the move is indeed a de facto cut.

Sure the bureaucracy and administration of our education system will stay relatively intact, but there's not much point if nobody can afford to go to school.

What about cutting the Work Study, Student Summer Works, the Environmental Youth Team and Graduate Assistantships?

Five-thousand students in the province depended on these programs and these programs contributed significantly to many essential campus services.

Given the way Campbell has been acting lately, the Liberal axe will likely fall a few more times yet.

The bloody blade could fall on the tuition freeze, which may be lifted within a month. This would further reduce access to education in our province and force students to shoulder more of the costs, all couched in the Liberals' campaign promise to spare education from the chopping block.

Yeah, right.

The cuts may not be as tangible as they are in other ministries but at the student level education took a serious hit this year. All social services are interrelated and all help ordinary British Columbians live healthy, productive lives. Cuts to the assistance cheques single parents on welfare receive, restricting access to walk-in-clinics and cutting youth employment, victim services and youth-at-risk programs hit hardest those of us in the lower tax bracket.

Without quality of life, education suffers. Students who travel to the food bank each week (or each day) can attest to that.

Shouldn't university administrators stand up for students against our axe-wielding premier?

It doesn't look like it.

Our university president is swallowing the Liberal line with a big grin, patting the government on the back for leaving his administration alone. But this silent acceptance may in fact shift the operational costs onto students.

It's a high cost that isn't just realized in a negative bank account balance, a maxed-out credit card or empty wallet.

Because added economic strain impacts everyone.

Who can worry about exams when the rent is due and the fridge is empty?

We're told the cuts are an economic necessity because we need to attract investment quickly before we become a "have-not" province. There is clearly some merit and public support for this line of thought, but how attractive is a province that takes away bus-pass subsidies from the elderly and disabled? Closes jails and newly-renovated courthouses? Considers certain environmental concerns "low risk?" Eliminates much-depended-upon-student-employment programs as a strategy to get the economy back on track?

The list goes on.

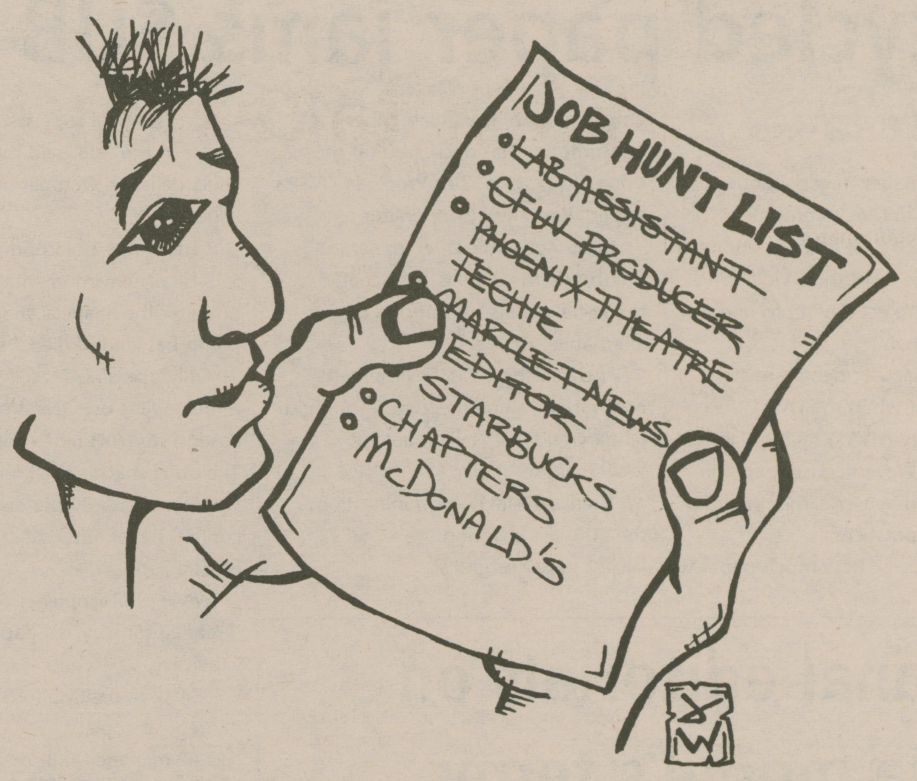
Welcome to a new government that follows the hack-and-slash tactics of Mike Harris's Conservatives in Ontario and Ralph Klein's Conservatives in Alberta. They cut the first year in, waited a few years, spent a bit and hoped voters forgot by the time they went to the polls again.

Both were re-elected.

Here at UVic we can't and mustn't follow our administration's lead, closing our eyes and smiling blindly, while our education and social services are quietly pushed out of reach.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at 12:30 p.m. in SUB b110a. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

Don't like what you read? Write, write, write, gimme gimme gimme... send it to **martlet@uvic.ca.**



LETTERS

Student fears for life at Clubs Days

I'm a little confused. Last year the Canadian Armed Forces was not permitted to recruit on campus because they had a dummy rocket launcher on their table, which one student found offensive. Fine, it looks like a weapon.

But then last week at Club's Days, the Kendo Club was wielding a wooden sword around in an offensive manner and was making me feel uncomfortable. I was afraid to walk anywhere near their table. So I made a written complaint to the Chair of the UVSS, Jaime Matten. She did nothing.

Was my complaint any less valid? Are clubs and stabbing weapons acceptable but not toy guns? Can I walk around the SUB with a machete? Are metal weapons illegal, but weapons of wood acceptable? What if an RCMP officer had to come into the SUB to investigate the embezzlement of another $350,000? Can he carry a gun? As far as I can tell, the only weapon illegal in the SUB is a nuclear warhead. Fine, no weapons of mass destruction, but is that the only restriction?

I am calling on the UVSS to end this hypocrisy and clearly define its policy on weapons in the SUB.

Chuck Wootten, National Security Advisor, UVic Young Republicans

Dispelling the quiet-life-of-res myth

In response to the feature comparing res life to that of Hollywood ["Real UVic life versus Hollywood," Jan. 10, 2002], I beg to differ from how life here is depicted. The article has a very narrow range of students that are interviewed, which gives a very incorrect and all-encompassing opinion. Not to say that it is an incorrect portrait of some buildings, but cannot span to describe the entire residence. A mere walk to the building of Emily Carr in the Craigdarroch complex would have painted a vividly different picture, one where beer bottles do indeed cover the floors on many occasions, and chants of "toga, toga" or "chug it, chug it" are not uncommon. I, by no means, am trying to say that it is one constant party, but when there is one, it becomes quite large, spanning frequently to two or more rooms. Nor are they relegated to Friday or Saturday nights. Music loud, people dancing, it becomes much more than "one little party." Hollywood could, perhaps, do well to take an example.

Perhaps Hollywood is not actually in the dark, considering that many residence buildings, even north of the 49th, live that way too. Unfortunately, at times, people do "drink that much," to quote Edgerton-McGhan, and I hardly, if not the opposite, find res life more boring than Hollywood.

Matthew Edwards, Emily Carr Building

Protesting protestor's hypocrisy

I completely understand the need to uphold a woman's right to choose if she wants an abortion. This has been legislated, no government would ever dare to touch this, it would be in fact political suicide. However there is another side of the argument that is constantly ignored. That is the Pro-life argument. One article in *the Martlet* mentioned how the NDP government legislated restrictions to Pro-life protest around abortion clinics. This is a violation of civil rights! You got to love UVic, students protest everything, yet they are so quick to deny certain groups the right to voice a contrary opinion. If you want to scream 'Stop oppression!' stop oppressing others yourself. I am not advocating Pro-life, however abortion has become a method of birth control for many young women, and that must stop. I do not believe in forcing my morals on the masses, so please stop forcing yours on mine, or at least provide both sides of the argument. If UVic activists want to protest everything under the sun, then let others do the same. Or is hypocrisy something you all feel comfortable with?

Mary Vie

SOAPBOX

Ex-girlfriend syndrome

by Elianna Lev

The Other Woman finds time to manicure her nails. The Other Woman is perfect where her rival fails. – Nina Simone

I'm in a crowded bar, the lights are dim and I think last call has just been announced. I've had way too many pitchers and my lipstick is completely smeared. They're playing my favorite song, something sexy by Prince, and I should be dancing on tables with my best friends. Instead I'm standing behind my ex-boyfriend and his new girlfriend. I'm standing behind them in my low-cut shirt, screaming to the person next to me about something vulgar that they might think is funny, drawing attention to myself. I want my ex-boyfriend to turn around, so I start to talk louder, about how I got a job in New York for next summer, about how happy I am. I look his girlfriend up and down, brush the hair out of my face, talk louder still. They ignore me. When she goes to the bathroom, I follow her. I want her to see me, see how cute I look tonight, how much better looking I am than her. In reality, I look like shit and the liquor has taken over my judgement. But this isn't something that can be blamed on the alcohol. I suffer from Ex-Girlfriend Syndrome (EGS).

This condition has been a part of my life since I was 17 and my first boyfriend dumped me and found a new girlfriend less than a week later. I was confused as to what this girl had that I didn't. She probably wasn't a good writer like I was and didn't love jazz like I did. Every time I'd see them together I'd take them in. I'd notice how he held her hand, how they looked at each other, how they laughed together. I made a point of being seen, looking my best and proving to him that he lost something good. Even though I didn't believe this myself, I figured he'd be able to. I didn't consider that our relationship had been deteriorating and he had good reasons to break up with me in the first place. I was wasting my energy on a lost cause.

EGS can do that to you. It takes over and leads you to believe that you are only worthy if you have the approval of your ex-boyfriend. It helps you see all that is wrong with his new girlfriend, even if you've never said a word to her. You make fun of her like a child and you aren't embarrassed doing so. If mixed with alcohol, EGS can be particularly harmful. If left untreated it can deteriorate your self-esteem, confidence and pride. It can also make others think you are childish, petty and insecure. And, much to your dismay, this is probably the truth.

It's only after I've left the bar or perhaps the next day when I've sweat out all the alcohol, that the EGS starts to become dormant. I start to think about how the new girlfriend was wearing really cute shoes and how she had a welcoming smile. If I'd met her through a mutual friend she'd probably be someone I'd totally get along with.

I look in the mirror, think about my behaviour the night before and realize: that wasn't me.

[2000/2001]
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STUDENT VOICE

West takes on Moore's "just war"

by Rebecca Whitney

As we enter the new year, we in the western world are carrying with us some old battles: Afghanistan at war, India and Pakistan on the brink of war. The world is teetering on the cusp of something too horrific to be imagined. Trying to make sense of it all is like attempting to solve a rubix cube in a blackout, but justifying it all seems, at least for leaders of powerful nations, to be relatively simple. George Bush only has to pick up a copy of Thomas Moore's *Utopia* and his path to war becomes a pleasant moral stroll. Can "just" – being the act of conforming or adhering with what is morally upright or good – be applied to the methods and practices of war today?

The phrase "just war" has become so common and incorrectly used in the 21st century that it has almost ceased to have any meaning. Where did the concept of the "just war" originate? Certainly not in this media-driven, politically correct era of "smart bombs" and "collateral damage." "Just war" is a way of thinking that predates our media-controlled society, a concept that was originally devised to give justice and justification for entering into the atrocities of war – not simply to rename the occurring atrocities in a less offensive manner. Thomas Moore's vision of Utopia was among the first to outline "just" rules and reasons for full-scale war and the duties of the citizens and rulers at such times. Moore claimed that war was a necessary evil of the world and should be guided by principles to make it as honorable and "just" as possible. These principles have been adopted, and gradually evolved by the Western world. "Just" warfare has become a part of our collective consciousness because we are desperately seeking justification for the mass destruction that the Western world has inflicted over the last century.

There is one bandwagon that the West in the last century seems to have entirely taken over, the utopic vision of the "just causes" for going to war. Thomas Moore quite precisely says that the Utopians "detest war, and, whenever it cannot be avoided, go to great lengths to minimize its destructiveness." This popular sentiment is one that has brought forth the introduction of today's military terms "strategic targets" and "smart bombs" to encourage a quick, relatively bloodless end to a dispute. Utopians go to war first and foremost to protect their own land. This is a reasonable claim to justice in the context especially in a time period where any action large or small receives an equal and often catastrophic reaction. But the Western world has taken Moore's vision further; today, we no longer simply protect our own home front but also concern ourselves with the liberation of "any oppressed people, in the name of humanity, from tyranny and servitude." This obviously creates rather more widespread problems than Moore could possibly have foreseen.

The problems with Moore's ideas of just war begin to show themselves when more than one powerful nation joins in the action. It becomes rather complicated when in the name of religion every country can justify war. Conforming to the idea that a war can be "morally upright or good" seems farfetched, even when applying the Utopian theories of just cause and just action. The concept of just war is one that is to be aspired to, it is the idealistic vision that all war and destruction has a justified purpose. The sole reason that the term is used today is to assuage the guilt of the warring nations. What Moore never bargained for was terrorism that kills thousands and bombs with the capability to annihilate the world 50 times over. Utopian warfare may have its roots in an ideal, but in a society where warring countries have a little red button that means the end of civilization it is has lost most of its meaning. But if it helps George Bush sleep at night, I suppose it has served its purpose.

Moore may be able to justify the wars of his imaginary Utopia, and the Western leaders may do so in much the same way on some foreign soil, but is it right to call anything which causes the death of innocent and obedient people "just?" How can anything that results in the death of so many be called 'just', "when blood is the [only] argument?" (Shakespeare)

SOAPBOX

A grim future after Black Thursday

by Kevin Groves

A new era has indeed begun, but there doesn't seem to be much hope and prosperity in it these days. I woke up on Black Thursday and read about the 11,700 civil service jobs the BC Liberals deemed "redundant." The Campbell government wielded a sharp axe that day, ending the careers of many civil servants who had served the provincial government faithfully and may have even voted Liberal in the last election.

Some of the cuts were also just plain cruel. They axed the work study program for students (like me) looking to make some money while burdened by the ball and chain that is the student loan program. In fact, the government cut all its youth initiatives last Thursday, putting its faith in the training wage to pick up the slack of rising youth unemployment. Fewer jobs and six bucks an hour?

Some New Era for young people.

They also axed bus pass subsidies for low income seniors and the disabled and took single mothers with children older than three off the welfare rolls. One-third of the province's courthouses will be closed and eight provincial jails will be shut down to save money.

Not even premiers Ralph Klein (Alberta) or Mike Harris (Ontario) went this far, and they cut their civil service when their provincial economies were growing and could absorb canned civil servants back into the workforce. Not so in B.C. where the unemployment rate has skyrocketed to 9.7 per cent in the last month, a larger increase than the rest of Canada combined. The message the government sent on Black Thursday was plain: We will not help you anymore. You are on your own.

Which brings me to the Feb. 6 rally the UVSS and the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) have organized over the last year. Both the UVSS and the CFS have worked tirelessly to make sure students are aware that we all could be paying an extra $750 in tuition next year, and double what we currently pay in the next three years. For their work they should be commended for the fine job they have done in increasingly difficult circumstances.

But let's be realistic. The cuts we saw on Black Thursday were undertaken to save about $1.9 billion, but the government's current "structural deficit" amounts to about $3.8 billion. You don't need to be a math wizard to see that those cuts won't make a significant dent.

Theoretically the government does have other options to bail itself out of its deficit and balance the budget by the 2004-2005 fiscal year, like they promised. They could, for instance, sell assets like BC Ferries to the private sector, or even do the unthinkable and raise taxes, justifying it (as they said last Thursday) by saying that tough times have arrived in B.C.

But it's far more likely the government will simply take the low road and offset the cost onto the disenfranchised by cutting social programs. So brace yourself for more cuts because Campbell's not even close to done yet.

I would love to eat my words when the budget comes out on Feb. 19, but if you still think the tuition freeze can be saved by protesting on Feb. 6, I would think twice. You would be wasting your time.

Having said that, though, I will still be present on the Legislature lawn that day waving my placard and adding my voice to those arguing about how increased tuition is unacceptable. I will not do it because I believe Campbell will keep the freeze when all evidence points to the contrary. I will do it on principle alone. Because to do anything less would let the BC Liberals know we accept what they're going to do to us.

BITCHY HOMO

Why I think gay people should rule the world

by Lindsey Froland

Some people may not want to hear this, but I believe that gay people should rule the world. By gay, I mean every kind of queer person. "Why?" you may ask. "Why not?" I may answer. And I would, of course, be acting like an idiot by not giving you a real answer at all. Like I am about to.

As we all (should) know, gay people usually go through a lot of hardships before finally attaining some sort of balance or peace in their lives. The coming-out process (and who wouldn't want to come out of a closet? When was the last time you cleaned yours?) involves much misery: losing good friends, being ostracized from friends and/or family, living in despair when you realize that Martha Stewart really IS a goddess. Ok, so this is an extreme picture, but episodes like this really do happen.

Yet most of us survive. We move on, make new relationships, incite advocacy and awareness, or just plain live. I read at Gay.com and in the Advocate that gay men are more likely to make loads of money and be well-off, even if they raise a family or buy expensive things. Not to mention how fabulous those lesbians are!

So why do gay people seem to be so amazing after surviving the cruelty and inhumane treatment that some people think we deserve? Precisely because we have survived. Society's ingrained prejudice towards all things different is not something new. It's been happening for millennia. Mr. Goat-Herder over here sees Mr. Goat-Milker over there whose hair is red and doesn't like it, and beats the crap out of him, which starts a centuries-long feud, and so on.

With gay people ruling the world, we would have people in power who recognize social injustice and, most likely, would work to prevent it. Our social welfare programs would be set up to allow individuals to find themselves, in much the same way gay people find themselves. Want to be an artist? You can go to school to be an artist. Want to suck the life out the general populace as a lawyer? Well, go right ahead. Schooling, then, would obviously be free and based on merit and interest. Of course, this wouldn't be a problem, because everyone's interests would be able to be satisfied.

"But what about non-gay people?"

I'm glad you asked. This is the sticky point in my hypothesis, mainly because gay people don't normally as a rule reproduce without a little help from medical science. And if it was only up to the bisexuals, all they'd be doing is making babies, which is rather unfair. We could put the heteros in their own communities, and let them breed like crazy, but once again that seems rather unfair – I personally would like to have a child to raise.

So, what do we do? Enslave the hets? Create elaborate laboratory procedures that allow everyone to conceive? No. We have more important questions to solve.

Not all gay people are nice. Let's face it, there are many bitchy queens in the world (and I don't mean Elizabeth II). These people would be just as willing to exploit the general populace in exactly the same way as lawyers, politicians, and greedy capitalist swine do now, as perpetrators of the great, uncaring economy of North America.

I guess gay people wouldn't be the best at ruling the world. Maybe we need caring, concerned individuals in power – no matter their sexual orientation.

The chances of that happening soon? Slim to none.

victorian punk

One of the problems Victoria's underage punk fans face is a lack of venues

story and photos by Jeffrey Werner

A big old four-door like grandpa used to drive pulls in. Several people, Chuck Andrews and Joey MacDonald among them, step out in black leather combat boots with spiked hair and patches of plaid clothing. They're the only ones I'm going to know at this party.

Andrews studies visual arts at the University of Victoria, hosts two punk radio shows and has been on the island for three years. He and high school student MacDonald have been promoting punk shows for the last two years.

The live all-ages scene – supported by those who can't go to bars or choose not to – is awesome in Victoria, said Andrews.

"But it could be better. I wish we had a regular venue to get bigger bands."

One of those venues used to be the Lil' Fernwood Hall, recently held accountable by the city for excessive noise and forced to shut down.

"It was a venue that so many bands have played at. That's why I'm so concerned about losing it," said Andrews, who has organized a petition with MacDonald to save the hall.

There's no noise outside the North Park house because the bands Yeknob and The Rampant haven't started playing the invite-only gig.

Just like at any good house party, a keg of beer governs the middle of the living room regardless of the presence of underagers. About 20 teenagers chat on couches, pump ale into cups and bump into walls.

I would normally feel out of place at such an intimate gathering of safety-pinned mohawks and thick, black eyeliner. But some of these high-schoolers are wearing un-ripped jeans, short brown hair and have no tattoos. Regardless of style, everyone's here for punk.

Seda Demorest, a 20-year-old hairdresser, has lived with Yeknob on North Park for almost a year. In black fishnet stockings, a plaid miniskirt, face piercings and red coloured hair, she fills me in on the evening.

"The only thing that I was kind of worried about having underage kids here is that there's alcohol," she said. We could get cops on our ass, but not as long as it's under control."

Yeknob written backwards, someone tells me, is an ode to a cat. It is comprised of Demorest's roommates: 20-year-olds and one 17-er. The band members make bagels at a local bakery or remove asbestos by day but play punk at all hours outside their work shifts.

Since grade eight, in hometown Port Alberni, Demorest and friends had many opportunities to play in places more accommodating than a 10-foot-wide basement kitchen.

"Back home we used to have a youth hall and have an evening once a week with bands for underagers," said Demorest, who avoided bars until she was of legal status. "We would get an awesome turnout and that's in a tiny little town. In Victoria you could get an awesome turnout."

The underage punk scene is still patchy in B.C.'s capital city. Some say the scene is good, some say it's currently on a downswing and sucks.

A look at www.livevictoria.com, a music event site maintained in part by a UVic student to keep local music fans informed, shows a huge concentration of bands on the island. Punk rock alone has close to one hundred representative bands, some young, some old. Bands like AK-47 and Hudson Mack have played here for decades. Others, like The Rampant and Andre's Last Chance (an all-girl ensemble), are barely old enough to get a learner's license.

The resource listings on the site give the impression that Victoria's venue supply is meeting band demand. There are still plenty of licence venues for those who can get in. But for everyone under 19, venues are few and far between.

Underage bands like The Rampant play at Thursday's pub or the Cobalt in Vancouver but few locations exist where their friends and similarly aged fans can come and enjoy the music.

Burnside Elementary School has held a few gigs lately, thanks to The Rampant's 16-year-old drummer, a former Burnside student.

Fairfield's community-operated Garry Oak Room holds up to 150 people, but a representative from the facility said she couldn't recall ever hosting a punk show. She said it's not commonly booked by punk bands because it doesn't provide sound equipment.

There may be a stigma against punk in this city. Stereotypes abound that the scene is an all drunk-punk, smash and crash atmosphere.

"I think those people just need to come to a show and check it out because it's not like that," said Demorest. "They can get out of hand, but all shows can get out of hand. I haven't seen anyone get hurt at punk shows."

Alex Kozak, the coordinator of the 30-year-old Fernwood Community Association (FCA), which resides in and holds the lease to the Lil' Fernwood Hall, says the venue has been hosting punk shows since punk's beginnings.

The centrally located space is in the heart of the neighbourhood, on the number 22 bus route, across from the George & Dragon pub and the Belfry Theatre. Last year the FCA rented the hall up to two or three times a weekend to local punk bands.

Kozak says that punk events have been put on hold over the last couple of months because city council has received noise complaints from the hall's resident neighbours.

Kozak, who lived in Fernwood for 10 years, empathizes with the neighbours but he points out that the Lil' Fernwood – which, incidentally, was built in

Punk culture takes on many forms. Some punk fans plaster their walls with posters.

Yeknob (Chris, Mike, Choad and Seda) rocked the place at the private punk party.

1910 by the same family that built Victoria's Empress Hotel and Parliament Buildings – far precedes the town houses that were built ten feet away in the early 1980's.

Kozak says he believes that many of the recent grievances are unfounded.

"We were getting complaints when shows weren't even happening," he said. "We need the neighbours to work with us the most."

They are more than welcome to join the FCA board if they want to stop the punk shows, said Kozak.

But instead the townhouse residents have gone through City Hall, which has subsequently added a clause to the hall's upcoming 10-year lease, limiting punk shows to one per month.

"One gig a month is not going to serve our mandate," said Kozak.

Because the Lil' Fernwood is just that, lil', it's a perfect under-100-person venue for all-age shows and their smaller-than-bar-scene, but loyal, following.

"If you got kids and 20 of their friends, they're not going to rent the Royal [Theatre]," says Kozak.

He noted that this was the difference between the world of "bar punk" and "young punk." Young punk needs venues like Lil' Fernwood to thrive. Young punk enthusiasts are usually at a show because they want to see the band and let out energy. At bars, some people are there for the band and some use the music as a background for their drinking and socializing.

"Lil' Fernwood is not the greatest venue but it was regular," said Andrews. "There's a core group of kids that will come to every show."

On Thursday, Dec. 13, Mayor Alan Lowe and his city council held a public hearing on the Fernwood situation. MacDonald, The Rampant guitar player, brought his eight years experience in the punk scene to the FCA board, hoping to receive some answers.

After four hours of prolonged debates on various re-zoning and bylaws around the city, MacDonald, Kozak and Sol McInnis, president of the FCA, each had five minutes to speak. None of Lil' Fernwood's neighbours showed up to the hearing.

The city had previously mentioned opening a larger venue, which MacDonald said, was not the solution the all-ages punk scene is looking for.

"The bigger venues are actually out there, they're just more expensive and harder to get a hold of," he said. "What we really need is a smaller venue."

"It might not seem like much, but [the Lil' Fernwood] is one of the safer venues I've ever been in," he added. "And for the eight years I've been going, fights are extremely rare. I've maybe seen one, two. I've seen more than that on the city streets."

He adds that some attendees occasionally consume alcohol but he says that it's rarely a problem.

"What you have to really understand is that there's a common code of ethics and morals that everyone understands, that is upheld by anyone who is ever there," said MacDonald .

McInnis outlines what the association had done to address concerns, such as increasing sound insulation, and security and limiting access to the back of the hall closest to the neighbours.

She also objects to the lease's new clause.

"It's our board's mandate to create a space that is accessible to all people of our community and not to discriminate. I feel, and so does our board, that the section of the lease forces our board to discriminate based on people's age and what kind of music they listen to."

Andrews agrees.

"The reasons we lost Lil' Fernwood are bullshit," he said. "It's gotta be: give a little, take a little."

The current city bylaws can prohibit any noise after 11 p.m., while provincial laws keep kids out of bars. Even if a bar wanted to have an underage show, they would have to fork out for a special license and have the show over by 4 p.m.

Students like MacDonald and Andrews are giving more than a little to the punk scene and they aren't asking for a lot from the city in return.

By about 10 p.m. the last thing The Rampants are thinking about in a Fernwood kitchen crammed with equipment and a dozen moshers is where and when they'll get another gig.

While people smack into the female drummer by the back door or the shirtless lead singer by the sink, someone turns the lights off and the screaming volume increases.

Underage people are excluded from bars and thus have few places to enjoy live punk music. Punk enthusiastics of all ages crowded the private party, where Yeknob and The Rampant played.

No need for wax: Heads spin at Sugar nightclub

by Suzanne Beaubien

Sugar Nightclub found an inexpensive way to keep their dance floor clean and shiny without pesky mops or waxy buildup: breakdancing. Last Thursday, Jan. 17, a mostly Canadian crew of b-boys buffed away with their heads, leaving a nice, shiny finish on the wooden dance floor.

Reverb Productions hosted the breakdance competition that began early in the evening, before the usual crowd of tube-topped and gelled-hair hotties began their Thursday night 75-cent beer debauchery.

photo by Sarah Glen

The hip hop beats kept this breaker bouncing at Sugar.

When the long lineup was finally let into the club at 9 p.m., the dance floor looked like a yoga class in mid-pose. Almost 20 Puma-clad b-boys were stretching, legs splayed out and arms crossed behind their backs, readying themselves for the strenuous show of flexibility and strength about to ensue.

The battle went on for an hour and a half, in three rounds: four on four, two on two, and then the finals, with open-circle battles both before and after the formal competition. Breakers from different crews battled back and forth, often parodying the last move an opponent completed, before performing their unique routines.

Fast footwork and a skillful linking together of moves with style earn breakers points with judges, but power moves, like stalls and head spins earn the crowd's respect. Like yoga masters trained in gymnastics, the best of the breakers move from contorted poses into dynamic flips and footwork that resemble Olympic-quality floor routines.

Although the structure of the contest was difficult to detect, as breakers battled back and forth in smaller and smaller numbers, the winner was obvious. Getic (short for Energetic), a sponsored b-boy from Southern California, spun on his head for so long it looked like he was going to either take flight or drill into the floor. Only 19 years old, he has been breaking for five years, and was clearly the crowd's favourite.

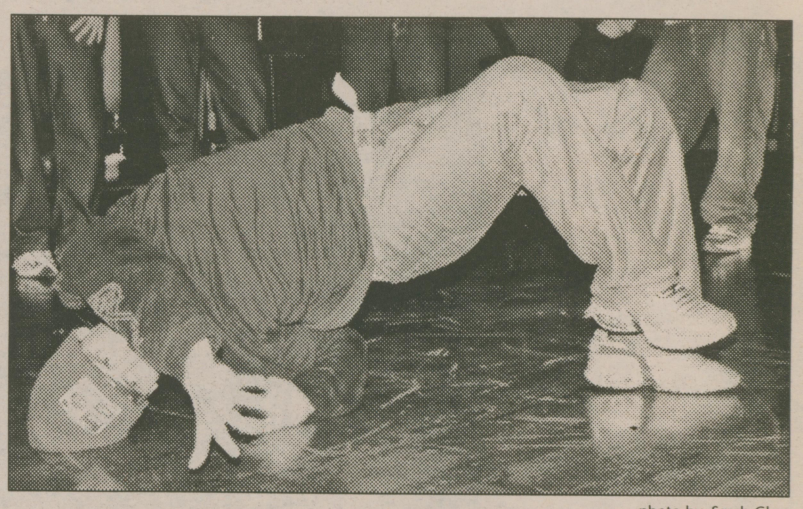


photo by Sarah Glen

An anonymous breaker keeps the floor at Sugar shinning, Jan. 17.

One of the organizers and judges of the competition, Steve Hall, teaches breaking at Excalibur Dance Co. in Victoria. The 19-year-old graduate of Spectrum High has been breakdancing for five years and teaching for three. Two of his students, Erica Chan and Ande Butler, were the only female breakers to share the floor with the boys during an open-circle battle that night. Both UVic students, they've been breaking for only a few months, but previous dance and yoga classes have allowed them to improve quickly.

Chan said yoga has helped her build the core strength necessary to do the more powerful moves. Both girls said breakdancing is strenuous and they are always covered in bruises, especially on their shoulders.

"It's intimidating because all the guys are so good and so strong," said Chan about the lack of female breakers in the contest. But when they finally braved the dance floor, the mostly male crowd loudly cheered them on.

With its multiple levels, Sugar is the ultimate location for a breakdance competition. Despite the huge crowd, there was ample space to see every stall and windmill from the balconies.

If you missed this competition, don't put away the wristbands and Adidas just yet. Rumour has it there may be another battle in six weeks, the next time Sugar's dance floor needs a good scrubbing.

Writing against the clock

by Rebecca Whitney

Are you ready to test your endurance, push yourself to the absolute limit of your abilities and never have to break a sweat? The Writer's Marathon on Jan. 26 is the perfect opportunity for writers and would-be writers to put pen to paper for four solid hours and allow their inspiration to flow.

Heather Walker is the driving force behind the Writing Student's Union fundraiser.

"I got the idea from *Writing Down the Bones*, a book by Natalie Goldberg, and I thought it sounded amazing, something I would really love to do," said Walker.

Participants will write for four hours broken up by time segments during which writers will have a chance to read aloud their own work, or parts of it, to the group. In the writing environment this will be the only communication allowed.

"There will be no verbal communication other than what you have written," said Walker. "The environment is designed to put writing first, it will be intense," she added.

There will be suggested topics for each timed session to serve as inspiration, not as a guideline. Writing to music and shifting genres are some of the possibilities but nothing is set in stone.

"Everything you write at the marathon is for your own private consumption. If you don't want to read or even participate in one of the sessions, that is fine," said Walker.

The idea is to give yourself over to the creative process for an entire afternoon. The marathon is intended to raise money for this year's publication of the *Inner Harbour Review*, which will be richer and more colourful with this year's extra fundraising.

"I am hoping that hundreds will turn out for this marathon," said Walker.

"[They can be] people that are writers, people that want to be writers and people that don't yet think of themselves as writers but want to be part of this incredible experience."

The organizers are hoping for a very collaborative afternoon that will bring together the writing community in Victoria.

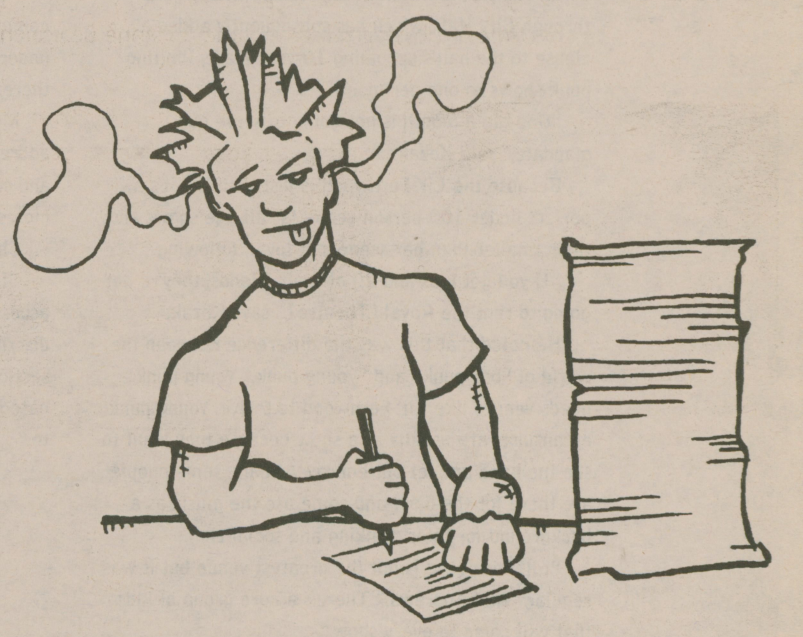
"There is this energy that happens when writers get together, it is designed to be constructive, not competitive," said Walker.

Each writer is encouraged to build on and gain inspiration from what they hear throughout the course of the afternoon.

"We are hoping that by the end of the afternoon everyone will be eager to share what they have written and perhaps produce pieces for next year's *Inner Harbour Review*."

But don't think it will be all work and no play. Refreshment stops, a bake sale and coffee will be available all afternoon for those participating.

This unique event will provide writers with the opportunity to re-charge their imaginative batteries and meet other creative and inspired individuals.



graphic by Joanna Wong

Bring a pen, paper, your $5 registration fee and all your creativity to the David Strong building room C112 at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26, and surrender yourself to an afternoon of words.

For more info seek out the Writing Student Union info booth in the Clearihue lobby Monday and Thursday this week or call Heather, 592-6907.

Campus culture calendar

VISUAL ARTS

Visual Arts Fundraiser
"BAR STAR"
@ Sugar Nightclub
on Saturday, Jan.26
Come before 10:30 p.m.
Tickets at the Door

CREATIVE WRITING

Guest writer George McWhirter reads from his work
Monday, Jan. 28, between 1-2 p.m.
Cornett A 121

MUSIC

Fridaymusic
School of Music students in a program for various instruments
Friday, Jan. 25, 12:30 p.m.
Phillip T. Young Recital Hall
Admission by donation

Violin Extravaganza
Students perform works from the violin repertoire
Friday, Jan. 25, 8:00 p.m.
Phillip T. Young Recital Hall
Admission by donation

Faculty Recital
Susan Young, soprano
Harald Krebs, piano
Songs by Robert Schumann and Hugo Wolf
Saturday, Jan. 26, 8:00 p.m.
Phillip T. Young Recital Hall ($12, $8)

If you're organizing an event that you think should be included in our campus culture calendar then email the info to martletart@yahoo.ca.

Takin' it home at Steamer's

by Dave Craik

Take It Home attracted a fairly large crowd at Steamer's Pub last Saturday night, filling the dance floor with a sea of gray hair and cheesy dance moves from a generation gone by. But the band also attracted a blend of all ages enjoying the sounds Take It Home describe as "a reconciliation of gospel and groove."

My first impression of this group was they had a hint of George Thorogood, which is seldom a good thing. But I told myself to give them the benefit of the doubt. What first began to catch the more positive side of my ear was UVic's own Dan Mock on guitar and vocals. He seemed to know his way around an improv solo, which has a way of getting one rocking. After the first set my opinion of the group changed. It became clear that all four members of Take It Home, Mock, Chris Can Sickle on piano and vocals, Ryland Haggis on electric bass and Brent Norman on drums, were influenced by a variety of musical genres.

Chris's licks brought a unique jazz feel to the group but were always pulled back to the rock side with a solid beat infused by Dan and Brent. The results of these conflicting forces resulted in a delightful sound characterized by its variety. To add to this electrifying tension, Ryland ripped off with some totally funky, skillfully technical and downright impressive licks all to his own. Dedicated to the exploration of sound, Ryland provided the missing link the other three had been looking for only one year ago when they were putting Take It Home together.

The songs' storytelling abilities tied the tension together with a comfort that was evident by the warm reception from the audience.

When a band writes its own music, their performance is commendable for the simple fact that they created something unique, brought it together and had the guts to share it with the world.

photo by Melissa Cook

The majority of the songs Take It Home performed Saturday night were their own creation and the technical use of their instruments displayed some serious talent.

Give these guys a chance. If you aren't into the style one minute, you will be the next.

Get global with *Planet°*

by Joanna Wong

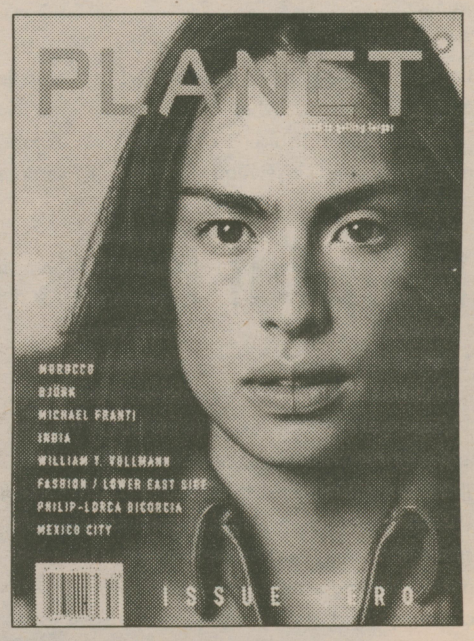
Forget Cosmo, Maxim and People.

Are you a trend-conscious hipster feeling a little too global to be contained by national boundaries? Do you want to spend your disposable income on the alternative kind of commodities, dammit? Do you like lots of romantic black and white pictures of the developing world? Well, hold on to your postmodern theory baby, because PLANETº is the magazine for you.

Produced and published in San Francisco and just newly launched, PLANETº declares itself to be a "relevant pop-culture magazine with a global vision." Think Rolling Stone meets National Geographic meets Vanity Fair.

For the jet set, we have the "Satellite" section: quick blurbs on the must-sees around the globe. From surrealist exhibitions in London to trance music beach festivals in Morocco to street parties on the Kammenstraat, PLANETº has got its fingers on the pulse of funky. For the more exotically inclined, we've got articles on Indian divinity and a continuing feature on indigenous groups around the world. PLANETº has celebrities too, although it interviews only those of the more liberal variety like Micheal Franti and Bjork. And for the young social theorist clutching a dog-eared copy of NO LOGO, weve got an article on the corporatization of music entitled "Do I want my MTV?" Throw in some cd and book reviews and cutting-edge fashion photos and you have something for every twenty-/thirtysomething on the cooler side of cool.

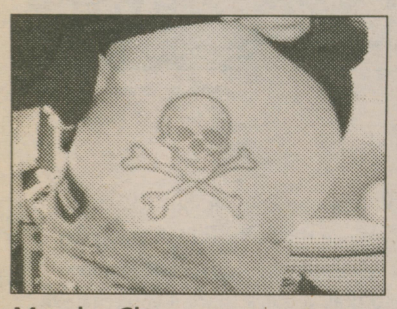
If anything can be said against PLANETº, its that the magazine has researched its target audience a little TOO well. It's possible to get a little too streamlined. Pieces like the article "Heaven and Earth" on the Hindu religious festival Maha Kumbh Mela leap off PLANETº's glossy pages as sickly-sweet appropriation. But then, hey, its a young magazine with plenty of room to grow. And with other choices being "10 new sexy ways to please your man in bed," I'd say alternatively-minded PLANETº has got it all over the competition.



ON THE SPOT

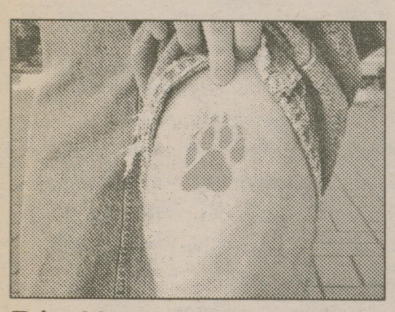
Show us your body art!

compiled by Joanna Wong and Suzanne Beaubien



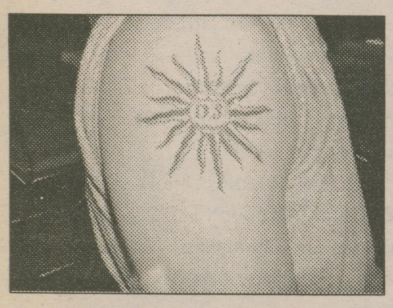
Meesha Chan
the Marltet Advertising Director and soon-to-be rocker mom with a really cute belly

Kurt Kenney
3rd year writing



Tyler Murray
2nd year Commerce

Andy Weeks
5th year Economics



Don Sunter
4th year English

Juliet Rice
3rd year Anthropology

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Open stage at Steamer's a weekly success

by Christopher Hooper

Are you a budding musician not yet established? Not interested in busking and looking for a more appreciative audience? Or maybe you don't have money to see big concerts but still want to hear some live tunes? If I have your attention, read on.

For almost four years, working musician Leigh Grisewood has hosted the open mic, or rather "open stage," night at Steamer's on Mondays. Originally from Vancouver, Grisewood has lived in Victoria for the past 10 years and is known to many of those involved in the local music scene. How was he able to create this weekly venue?

"I got to know the owner from the times I played Steamer's and I hosted other open mics, so when I asked him [the owner] about starting one here, he agreed," said Grisewood.

The purpose of open stage night is to give people a chance to showcase their talents and though most performances are by musicians from Victoria, it is not exclusively for music or locals. There have been the occasional poem or sketch, and word-of-mouth has drawn some people from as far away as New York and Texas.

The night is organized on a first-come-first-play basis. Spots can fill quickly and some performers don't get to play. Steamer's was not overly crowded the night I went, though all the tables in front of the stage were filled.

The style of music played is as varied as the talents of each musician, but most could be described as folk, rock, blues, country/western, or something in-between. Songs are split evenly between original material and covers of classics, and the instrument of choice is guitar, mainly acoustic.

photo by Horia Coman

Georgia Brooke Hamilton isn't an amateur, she's a passionate musician.

> Check it out if you're interested in live music, even just to listen. Musicians always want to be heard.
>
> *Leigh Grisewood*

One of the performers at the night I was there was Cara McCandless. Originally from Manitoba, she made her way out to Victoria in 1998 to pursue a career in music. For six years she has been singing and playing acoustic guitar and has attended many different open mic events, saying they are a good experience and have a supportive atmosphere. When asked if some amount of courage is required to get up on stage, she said she actually feels excitement and anticipation before each of her performances. From her regular appearances and confidence on stage, it is no surprise that she believes that Steamers' open stage is the best.

Some people may think an open stage is an event for amateurs, but some of the musicians are just as professional as any endorsed performer. Assessing the quality of the acts that show up nightly, Grisewood rates them as "ninety-percent good."

His hope is more people will come out to see and have a good time. His suggestion: "Check it out if you're interested in live music, even just to listen. Musicians always want to be heard."

Helpful hints for those hungry on campus

by Kristin McIntosh

When faced with the task of eating on campus everyday, it's hard to maintain a healthy diet. Yet, if you're going against the grain and trying to put the pounds on, then perhaps campus is the best bet for you. And yet it's not just the food that makes a dining establishment (or campus cafeteria) good, it's also the service, the atmosphere, and (being the students we are) the price. Finding the right place can be tough. I'm going to let you in on the secret of where to get the best food for your buck.

Sweet Greens

For the health freak, Sweet Greens is your best bet. They serve up everything grease-free. For a measly $3.75 per sandwich, it's probably one of the best deals on campus, though they do take the opportunity to charge extra for cheese and any veggies over your three-choice limit. And, though your servers aren't always the perkiest (who would be if you had to make sandwiches for hundreds of students a day), they can make your custom sandwiches about as fast as you order them. And more importantly, they usually get your order right . . . the true definition of a sandwich artist. The one downfall? They're only open from 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. . . . so if your stomach doesn't conform to those hours, you're pretty much out of luck.

University Centre Cafeteria

So close, yet so far. You'd think, being near to Sweet Greens, some of the healthiness would rub off. No such luck. This cafeteria seeps with grease; so much so you can almost feel it on the plastic utensils and paper plates. Though they do offer fresh alternatives (fruit, yogurt, soup), the majority of the place is filled with the type of food you know Jenny Craig wouldn't recommend. But realistically, it's the food everyone craves. You've got a variety of Villages pizza, the meat and potato meals you're used to from back home, and any burger you could want. And it's prepared fresh and fast . . . a necessity if you're actually planning on making it to class. Plus there is tons of seating and the hours are much more doable. One warning: if you're looking for a quiet place to eat or finish the reading for that class you are about to go to, better head someplace else. Shouting seems to be the only way to communicate in there.

Finnerty's

Most people know Finnerty's for its location and its bathroom. But it's also great for a snack or hot drink. While they have all the general convenience store goodies, they also have baked stuff delivered daily (trust me, try the pepper, onion and cheese thingy), tons of microwavable meals and a cappuccino machine that pumps out any hot drink you could imagine. It's not a great place for a meal . . . but snackwise, it's one of the best. The staff is always chipper, but unfortunately, since the traffic is high you often find yourself waiting in line for several minutes. Not a place to grab a quick snack if you're late for class. It's always fairly quiet so you can tuck yourself in the corner and ignore the world.

photo by Suzanne Beaubien

Scrumptious – UVic students chow down on some compus grub.

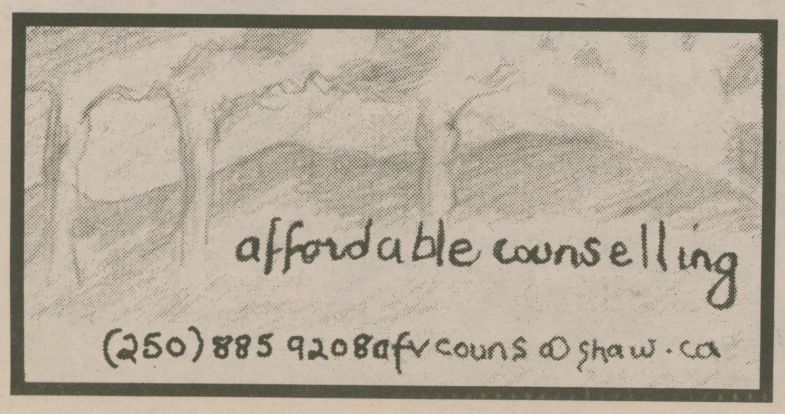
Reel Madness film festival unwinds

by Anne Larrass

With the cold and rainy mid-winter weather you might find yourself falling into an occasional depression. Sometimes a day of sunshine will dissipate the heaviness and you'll be seized by new energy and ideas.

What if you suffer from an ever-present feeling of lethargy and sadness, and you wonder how to break that terrible pattern? Check out Victoria's fourth annual Reel Madness Film Festival which features films that examine mental illnesses, depression and recovery. With each of us on an ongoing quest to find happiness and health, the Reel Madness Film Festival shares the lives of individuals who were able to lift themselves out of depression and create new dreams. In more than 10 movies these talented independent filmmakers explore ways to attain a stable state of well-being by offering hope and sharing their experiences with the community.

In 1993 Festival Director Bruce Saunders, then a patient at the Eric Martin Pavilion, discovered a 100-seat auditorium in the hospital's basement. With a friend he decided to start Monday Movies, an event that invited the public to participate in a movie night followed by a group discussion.



> To travel in wilderness is risky, especially on your own, but equally risky is to have dreams and not to follow them.
>
> *Rob Perkins*

"I realized films could stimulate discourse about mental illness," he said.

The first popular film he showed with the theme of mental illness was "Benny and Joon". This film prompted discussion about treatment and facilities for people with mental illnesses.

"It's been a very positive movie for me and my family. One of the best results of this experiment has been to shed all the baggage that comes with the usual secrecy and to make a constructive thing of our family's challenges of mental illness," said Saunders.

Now, more than eight years later, Movie Monday continues to attract the public and powerful group discussions giving new hope to participants.

Four years ago, Saunders decided to go public and invite independent film-makers to show their work and share their experiences during a five-day festival.

The Reel Madness Festival promotes and encourages creative expression by filmmakers who have suffered and continue to suffer from mental illnesses. The purpose is to encourage members of the community who are living with some form of depression to seek help and find hope.

Rob Perkins, special guest of this year's festival, will be presenting his best-known film *Into The Great Solitude*, a film journal that features his canoe adventure travelling alone for 72 days down the 700-mile-long Back River in Northwest Canada. The film takes the viewer on an outer, as well as inner, journey during which he experiences the beauty of nature, encounters animals and attempts to understand his relationship with his father.

"I couldn't get away from myself," Perkins said.

Nature was his only companion, and this is where he found answers, inspiration and comfort: in the trees, watching birds, on the water, hiking. The journey was not risk-free, but as the opening lines of his book *Into the Great Solitude* state:

"To travel in wilderness is risky, especially on your own, but equally risky is to have dreams and not to follow them."

If you want to participate in some of these most compelling adventures, join Rob Perkins on Jan. 26 at UVic's David Lam Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. when he shows another one of his journeys through Kamchatka. Admission is $2.00.

The Reel Madness Film Festival runs from Jan. 24 through Jan. 28, featuring independent filmmakers Rob Perkins, Connie Bortnick, Linda Downey and others.

For more information on time and location, visit www.islandnet.com/mm, or call the hotline at 595-FLIC. You can also contact Bruce Saunders, the festival director, at 595-5977.

UVic swings for the fences

by Julia Smith

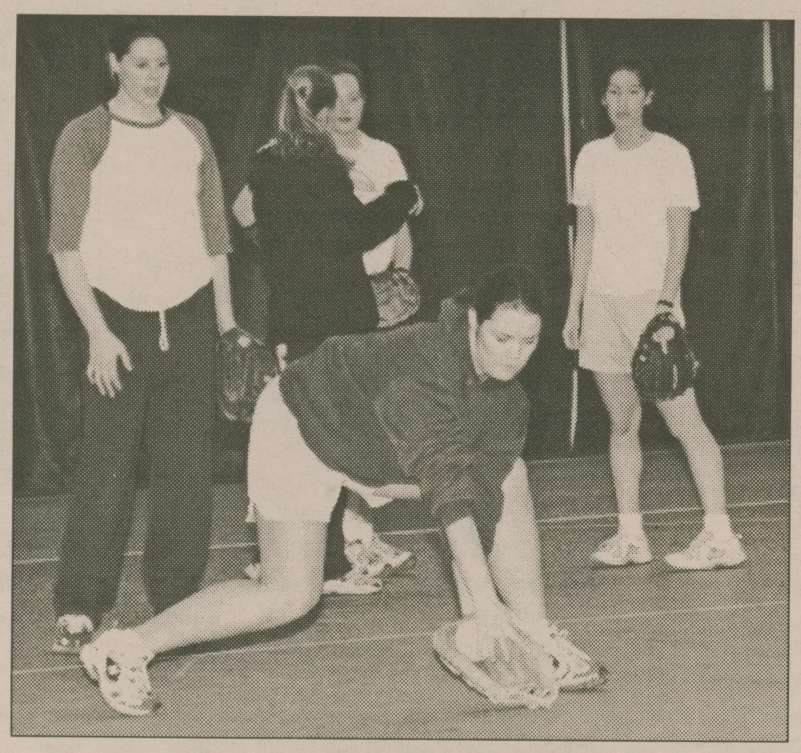


photo by Graham Winterbottom

The UVic women's fastball club fields grounders at practice in the Ian Stewart Complex Field House.

As he watched UVic's first fastball club run lines and go through drills in preparation for some upcoming games, Wayne Brodroske, the women's fastball coach, said he has never seen a team with so much spirit and dedication.

However, games are hard to come by due to a lack of opposing teams. SFU is the only other university squad nearby so most of UVic's games are against colleges from Washington State. Travelling to the States drastically raises team costs.

"It's about $2,000 for a weekend trip," said Brodroske.

"We try to encourage [American teams] to come up here."

However, it isn't much cheaper for the American teams to travel north, and it's hard to convince them to spend the extra money. Despite all that, Brodroske has been successful in planning home games for March 19 at the Cordova Bay fields.

The team is further hampered financially due to its status as a club, not as a varsity team. This means they don't get Vikes funding.

As a club the university supplies them with what Bodroske called "a modest amount of equipment."

Bodroske said fastball needs to work on getting established at UVic and in the province before trying for Vikes status.

UVic students formed the fastball club two years ago. The team now has a roster of about fifteen women and tries to play eight to 10 games a season. Last year the team's record was five wins and four losses.

This year the club is having a "tough run" with a 0-6 record.

Most of the team's funding comes from fundraising. This means the players organize bottle drives, raffles and sell tickets at Legends nightclub.

Captain Alison Rodford said fundraising creates an added team bond. She added that the team works well together both on and off the field.

Bodroske agreed.

Through 25 years of coaching he said he has "never seen a team work like these girls. We just show up and coach. They do everything."

Because the players are required to put in time beyond practices and games, team try-outs in the fall are as much about attitude as they are about physical aptitude. The coaches and captain test basic skills and also watch for personalities they feel won't meet the demands of the team.

Consequently, in spite of their challenges the team is eager and dedicated.

Rodford described the team dynamic as having "lots of spirit and energy." They share this energy with the greater community by voluntarily running clinics for minor league ballplayers on Thursday nights.

This is an added time commitment to their four weekly practices but Bodroske said the community gives it back in kindness and support.

UVic makes mark at Can Wests

by Craig Battle

The UVic swimming team continued to gain momentum for the upcoming Spring Nationals this past weekend with a strong showing at the Canada West Championships in Alberta.

The Vikes neither shaved nor tapered their training schedules before the meet, but you wouldn't know it from the results. The men's team placed fourth overall, while the women's side swam hard and fast enough to earn the bronze medal.

Team manager Chris Hindmarch-Watson felt the meet showed the Vikes are on the right track for Canadian Interuniversity Sport national championships in Vancouver in February.

"Both the men's and women's teams will be quite solid for top-five team finishes at CIS championships," said Hindmarch-Watson.

The team, which totalled only 21 swimmers, held its own against some much larger squads.

"UVic had quite a small team," said Hindmarch-Watson. "Other teams had more than double the size of our men's team."

Individually, however, the Vikes saw mixed results.

"The results were great for some and not so great for others," said Hindmarch-Watson, who added some swimmers have been sick since the team returned from a meet in Phoenix earlier this month.

Jesse Jacks, who trained through the meet, hit a new personal best and took gold in the 200 butterfly. Jacks also helped UVic to a brone finish in the 4x100 medley relay.

Dave Creel and John Stamhuis also elevated the Vikes by reaching the podium.

Creel grabbed two silvers in the 400 IM and 1500 freestyle, as well as a bronze in the 400 free. Stamhuis took silver in the 200 breaststroke and 100 breast and also contributed to the 4x100 medley.

On the women's side, rookie swimmer Danielle Bell continued to shine. She topped the field in the 400 free, earned silver in the 800 free and grabbed bronze in both the 4x200 free and 4x100 medley relays.

Josee Dubois, also a standout on the women's side, won silver in the 100 breast, as well as bronze in the 200 breast, 4x200 free and 4x100 relays.

Up next for the Vikes are the B.C. Senior Championships in Vancouver in early February. Two weeks later, the Vikes will return to Vancouver for the CIS national championships.

the money ball

The Money Ball is an opinionated column of dialogue from the sporting world's most illustrious, yet meandering, duo – Booch and Mr. Morgan.

Reported by *the Martlet*'s Craig Battle

Mr. Morgan: Well, it looks like intramurals are back. All over campus students are lacing up skates, picking up footballs, hitting the fields. All for the love of sport.

Booch: (*eating an apple*) Yeah. So?

Morg: I'm sorry. I must have misheard you.

Booch: (*through a mouthful of apple*) Open your ears. I don't care about your love of sport. Your intramurals. I've moved on.

Morg: Liar! Imposter! Antichrist! What have you done with my friend?

Booch: Think about it. Grown-ups playing kid games? Silly.

Morg: (*despondently*) Oh. It's for real. And just when we were making our big comeback. This was supposed to be it.

Booch: And intramurals. What do you get even if you do happen to win in the end of it all? You work all semester, skip class, play through injuries and such. And what do you get? Huh? A shirt. Big wow.

Morg: (*emphatically*) It's not about the shirt.

Booch: Sure it's not.

Morg: I'm serious. There are posters that say this. It's about fun. It's about fitness and health, I think. I'm pretty sure it's about meeting people. It's not about the shirt. It's about the love.

Booch: (*dramatically, waving the apple about*) Dammit. Why must you challenge me on everything I say? Why must we always argue? This is why I left home. I don't need this. You're not my father.

Morg: I wish to hell I was your father. You wouldn't be walking around talking trash about sports if I was. Hey. Doesn't this remind you of *Star Wars?*

Booch: Huh?

Morg: *Star Wars.*

Booch: Never heard of it.

Morg: I know. You're just sad you lost your touch. Your rhythm. Your sense of the court. Can't hack it in the competitive division anymore, huh?

Booch: Who said I lost my touch? My touch is stellar. Better than ever. (*Throws the apple at a garbage can, misses by a mile.*) I'll have words with anyone who says otherwise.

Morg: So why slam intramurals?

Booch: Who slammed intramurals? I'll have words with them.

Morg: You did.

Booch: Now why would I do a crazy thing like that?

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Running for the fun of it

Jerry Ziak, following a brilliant B.C. high school career and some years spent soul-searching in Canada and the U.S., emerged on UVic this year to top all comers in the cross country national championships. What will he do next?

by Ruth Knoop

Most people are familiar with the phrase "the end justifies the means," especially when it comes to athletics. Many athletes follow the notion of win at any cost.

This logic, however, does not apply to the 2001 CIS Cross-Country MVP, Jerry Ziak. In fact, his approach to running is more philosophical: "The means justifies the end."

Ziak, 25, presently in his first year at UVic, began running long-distance when he was in grade four.

"My school in Merville, in addition to P.E., had a program where students, everyday, had to run or do aerobics for 30 minutes. I chose to run."

Later that year Ziak encountered his first taste of victory as he won the first cross-county meet he entered. That positive reinforcement for something he enjoyed kept him motivated.

In high school, Ziak helped lead Courtenay's G.P. Vanier to two B.C. championships and in 1993 he beat the provincial field by 45 seconds, one of the largest victory margins ever.

After graduating in 1994 Ziak pursued his post-secondary education down south in Alabama.

He describes that experience as "one of the most important moments of my life. It helped reinforce and challenge my thoughts and beliefs."

Although he appreciated the training in Alabama, he soon left for an opportunity in Boise, Idaho.

He underwent a brief stay in Boise, but soon left due to differences with the coaching staff.

"I didn't get along with the coach and didn't want to stay at a place where I didn't like the person," he said.

Following his stay at Boise, Ziak underwent what he refers to as his *Good Will Hunting* time.

"Intellectually, I was not spending enough time on things that I enjoyed," he said.

Rather than go directly back to school, he decided to take some time off to find out what interested him.

Four and a half years later, with an interest in philosophy and psychology, Ziak began his studies at UVic. He also began competing for the cross country team.

"It's a fresh experience," he says. "I haven't been on a school team in almost five years."

He admits that the younger members of the team help give him some youthful energy. And, unlike previous schools, he has a great relationship with his coach.

"I get along with Brent (Fougner) well. I can talk to him about any problem," Ziak said. "He's not a totalitarian coach; he approaches things from a two-way street."

Ziak's current training regiment consists of workouts six days a week. Three of those days are race-specific workouts, which consist of strength drills, speed training, pace training and cardiovascular power.

The other three days are spent doing recovery runs. The team members will run anywhere from 10 to 25 kilometres, at what Ziak refers to as "conversational pace," which allows the individuals to focus on aerobic conditioning.

When asked why he continues to run, the answer is simple.

"After 15 years of running I'm able to enjoy the sport more than I ever have. Some people get bored with the sport, but to me the sport never changes. It is the way that you approach the sport that changes."

Ziak is quick to mention the influence of his first real coach, Darren Skuja.

"Darren practiced what he preached. He had a real passion for the sport and taught me that there is more to [running] than just the competitive aspect."

Although Ziak earned many notary achievements such as a spot on the Canadian Junior, a medal at the Canada Summer Games, a B.C. Championship and a seventh-place finish at the 1999 Canadian Senior Championships, he does not consider these his finest accomplishments.

"I try not to focus on any of the external achievements. I need to enjoy myself," he said. "I need to do what is best for myself and not concern myself with the end result. How I perform is a result of how I approach my days."

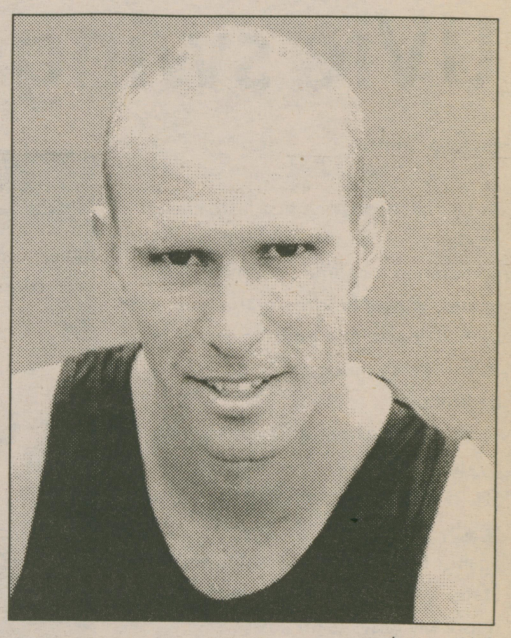


photo provided

Jerry Ziak, in his first year of CIS competition, won both the Canada West and CIS most valuable player awards.

This spring Ziak travels to Spain for the World University Championships. However, instead of being focused on placement, Ziak is focused on trying to achieve his best human potential.

"My everyday approach is 'what is the best thing that I can do for my body?'"

In the meantime, Ziak will continue his studies and hopes to eventually end up in the health field, specializing in health psychology.

"I want to help people approach life better, not like the way dictated in modern society."

At the same time he will continue to run, competition or no competition.

"I would do it regardless of the sport itself."

Wonderings and wanderings into the world of UVic sports

by Iain McLetchie

Keith Bustard absolutely torched UBC, scoring 30 points and grabbing eight rebounds in the win.

After losing 81-79 Friday night, thanks to a last-second UBC shot, you knew the UVic men's basketball team was going to come out with all cylinders firing, as the saying goes, the next night.

They did and showed the Thunderbirds a little something new, leading comfortably throughout the whole match and winning 81-61. In fact, UBC was never in the lead and didn't appear to be a threat to make a run at any point. A stingy Vikes defence denied UBC's Kyle Russell, who had 26 points, eight rebounds and seven assists on Friday, from getting any flow going.

This defensive effort did more than just take Russell, who came into the weekend series fourth in the nation with 24.3 ppg, out of the flow; it also made the rest of the Thunderbirds look lost and perplexed. Russell did end up with 23 points, but most came in the second half with UBC well behind.

UVic didn't just rely on defence. They also took the play to UBC at every level; running the transition game, making jumpers and using crisp passes and sharp cuts to gain easy baskets.

So it was a good match for the Vikes, and an important win. With a 7–7 record, UVic is in third-place in the Pacific Division, two wins back of UBC (9–5). It doesn't sound too important right now, but thanks to a new playoff schedule, the second-place team will host the third-place team while the first-place squad (SFU) gets a bye. The last three weekends of play will prove critical to the final placings for all three squads, as UVic hosts SFU this weekend and UBC will face the Clan in three weeks time.

But enough about schedules and possible schedules and standings and defensive schemes.

Now, I've watched many games in McKinnon Gym over my five years here. I've seen the powerful play of Eric Heinrichsen and Seth Adler, the smoothness of Ali Wilmott and the sweet post offence of Sandy Bisaro. I've seen rookies come in and sizzle (Robbie Green) and I've seen players bolt town for supposedly better deals (Chris Trumpy, Aaron Olsen). But Saturday's game was the single most dominant game I can recall seeing from a UVic player.

Keith Bustard absolutely torched UBC, scoring 30 points and grabbing eight rebounds in the win. Whether he was spotting up for three, pulling up for a jumper, driving for two or posting-up down low, Bustard owned it.

This guy is listed at a generous 6'4", not overly tall for a basketball player. He doesn't jump ridiculously well, although he will finesse the odd dunk in warmup. He has bad hair (sorry Keith) and it sure looks like he's wearing an old-ass pair of running shoes. But you know what? It doesn't matter. When the game comes down to the line, Bustard's been the man all year for UVic.

Watching him is a lesson in fundamentals: Back-door cuts, using his body in the post, releasing right at the peak of his jump. Eight rebounds? He had 14 boards against Brandon three weeks ago. Chuck Barkley was only 6'4" but at least he had a huge booty to clear room out. Bustard's a slender lad. Believe me, he gets those rebounds through position and full-on basketball smarts.

My high school coach used to talk about how he never watched the perimeter players during games. He watched the guys in the post; saw how they used their bodies to fight for position. Do that with Bustard – he's worth it.

But it wasn't just Bustard on Saturday. Jason Crawford, an extremely large and athletic bloke (he's 6'7" and built like a brick you-know-what), finally seems to be coming into his own on the court. Two dunks in the first five minutes will give anyone confidence, which is how Crawford welcomed UBC on Saturday, and he even added a little razzle-dazzle in the second-half, dribbling behind the back while leading a fastbreak.

Eric Rushton got into the act too, diving to the floor to tussle the ball away from a UBC guard. The action was symbolic of UVic's drive all game, and Rushton helped seal the deal late in the second half when he hit two successive treys from the corner.

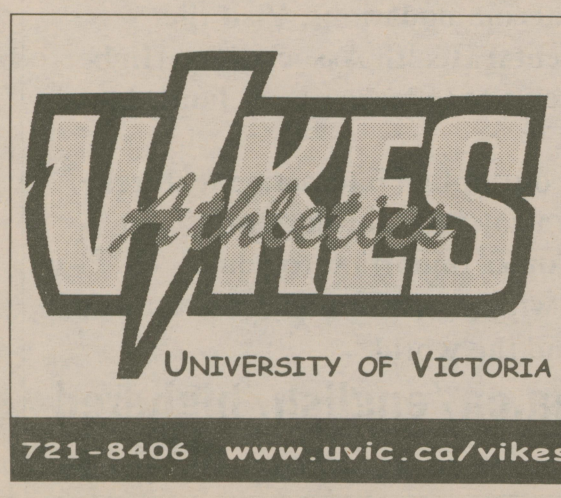
Suddenly this Vikes team looks pretty solid. Now, it may be a little quick to start planning the parade route – they did drop two straight to Alberta and are currently third in the Pacific Division – but it looks like it's all coming together at the right time for the team.

With SFU in town this weekend for the Vikes final home matches of the season, the team will need to play extremely well to win both games, particularly if they hope to move upward in the Pacific Division.

The women Vikes, meanwhile, will play host to the top-ranked and undefeated Clan. UVic, at 4–10, will have their work cut out with the Clan but are in desperate need of a few wins in order to make the playoffs.

Head on down to McKinnon Gym and show some support.

Saturday will be Senior day, where both teams recognize their fifth-year players. The men's team will recognize Bustard and Sandy Bisaro, while the women's squad will honour post Lindsay McDonald.



CADBORO BAY BASKETBALL WEEKEND

Friday Jan 25 & Saturday Jan 26 vs SFU — Women 6:30 pm, Men 8:15 pm

Games at McKinnon Gym

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Also: Men's Rugby — Courtney Walls Memorial Game
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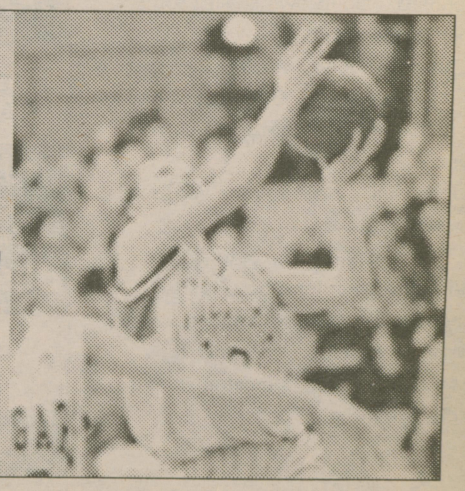

BILLBOARDS

ON CAMPUS

This Saturday is the big puppet and banner making party! We're making evil-debt-monkey puppets to wear on our backs at the **Feb. 6** rally. We've got maché, paints, fabric, cardboard, etc. – you supply the creative energy. C'mon, this'll be sweet! **Jan. 26** in the Michèle Pujol Rm. in the SUB from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Come join the Caledonian Club at "Robbie Burns Night," **Jan. 29,** 6 to 10 p.m. in the small half of the Michèle Pujol Rm. in the SUB. There will be haggis, dancing, poetry, etc. It's a potluck, so bring snacks and a healthy appetite for all things Scottish!!!

Movie night: Have you ever questioned the double impact that sanctions and bombings have had on the country of Iraq and its people? 500,000 children have died as a result of UN sanctions on Iraq. Join IndyMedia and VISO for a showing of the award winning film *Paying the Price: Killing the Children of Iraq*. Free admission, **Tues. Jan. 29** at 7 p.m. in the Grad Lounge on campus.

Islam Awareness Week (organized by the Muslim Students Association on campus), **Jan. 29 and 30.** Lectures will take place at different venues around campus with the main location in the SUB, between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. both days. Contact Akif Nazar at 477-5589.

Tibet 2001 – a slide presentation by Dr. Marion Tipple, traveller, photographer and president of the Trans-Himalayan Aid Society. **Thurs. Feb. 7** at 7:30 p.m. HSDA Rm. 240. Admission $8/$5 students. All proceeds go to TRAS. For further info phone 382-1779.

Volunteers needed for Groovefest. Call the Women's Centre 721-8353.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Victoria Shambhala Centre offers exciting meditation training opportunities. Meditation in everyday life, level 1: **Jan. 25-26,** $75. Shamatha meditation community workshop: **Feb. 4-7,** 7 p.m., $50. Recommended for all levels of experience or visit our open house Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at 2033 Belmont Ave. 383-9108. www.shambhala.org/centers/victoria

Capture the Flag! Feb. 2 at 2 a.m. Saturday night at Market Square gates on Johnson St. Resurrection of the greatest unorganized game in the Galaxy! Come play the infamous underground sport that captured the soul of the streets. Absolutely free! Confused? Judith at 370-0868.

Fantasea party cruise on 41' luxury liquor-licensed yacht. **Feb. 2, 9, 16, and 23,** from 8 to 11 p.m. Grab a friend or two or 20 and party with us! Caution: loud music. 812-6044.

Smoking cessation through hypnosis Next Victoria workshop: **Feb. 2.** Student price: $59 + GST 1-866-300-0025 Info: www.Walsh-Seminars.com

Stress management: discover sources and coping mechanisms. Next Victoria workshop: **Feb. 9.** Student price: $59 + GST. 1-866-300-0025. Info: www.Walsh-Seminars.com

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Attention students in Education, Biology, Geography and Environmental Studies: Gain practical experience with relevant volunteer positions in Nature Education and Trail Design and Construction. Contact Joan at Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary for more details. Phone: 479-0211 or email: jcowley@swanlake.bc.ca

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HEY YOU

A little blue light which flashes in my head says: You are not a poet – all you do is mistake life for beauty, and sometimes vice versa.

sometimes i decide to miss my trombone

Rio the dog was stolen from outside of Superstore Sunday Jan. 20. He's medium-sized with short beige fur and he loves tennis balls. Please call Val and Deb at 474-3476 if you've seen him.

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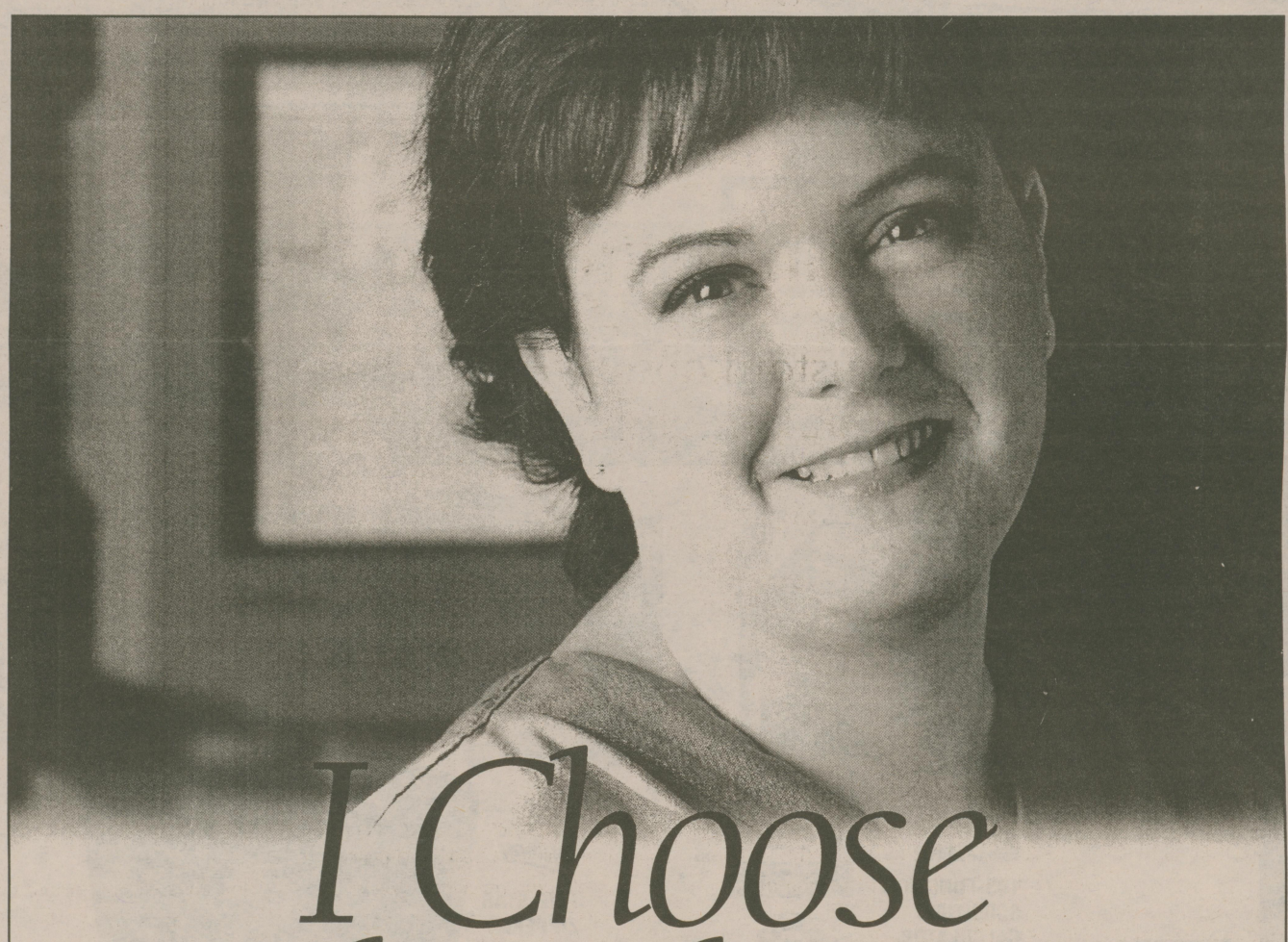

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I can afford my own home. My kids can take music lessons, skating lessons and learn how to play hockey and baseball. I have time for myself too, and once in a while, I indulge in something really special.

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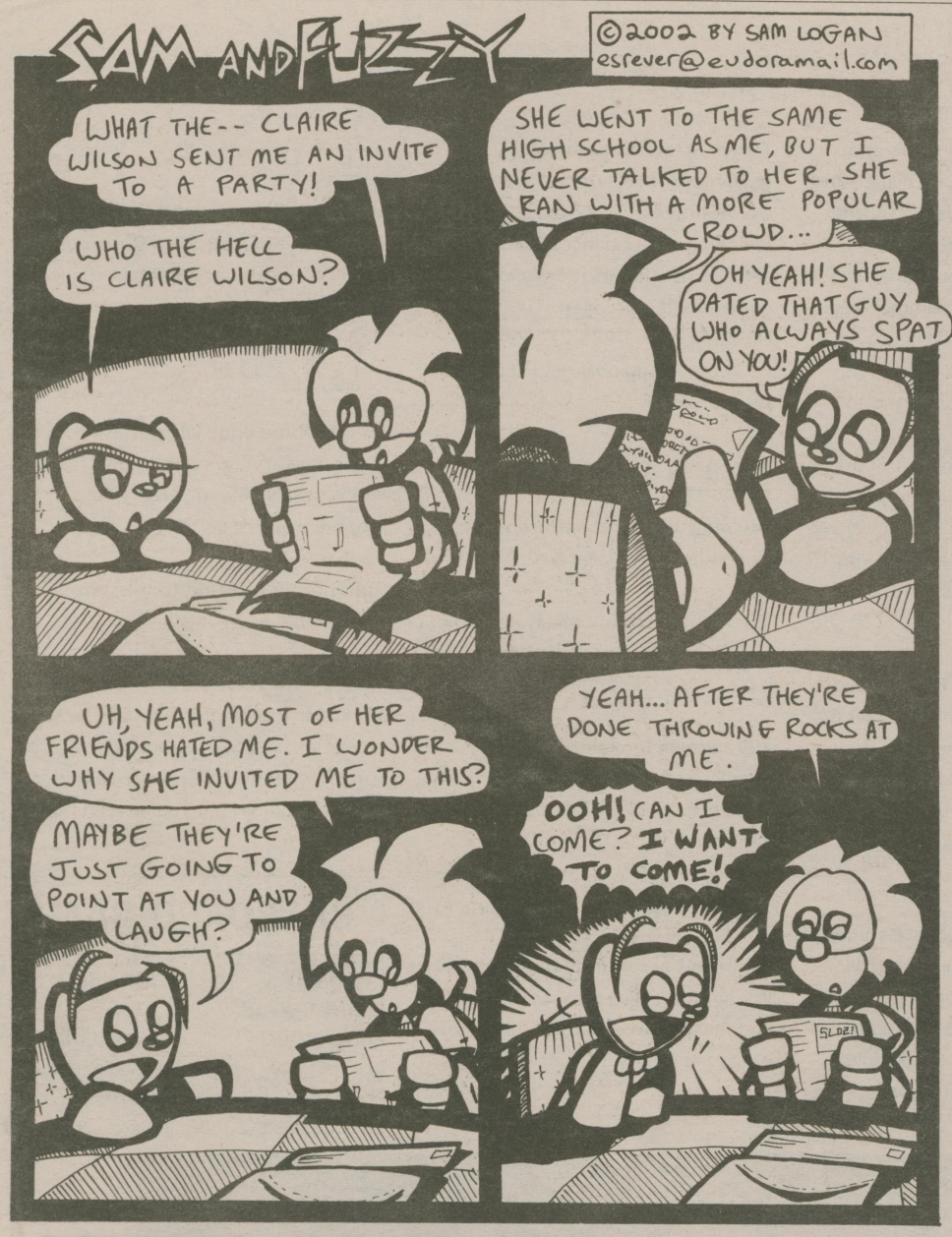
SAM AND FUZZY
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esrever@eudoramail.com
WHAT THE-- CLAIRE WILSON SENT ME AN INVITE TO A PARTY!
WHO THE HELL IS CLAIRE WILSON?
SHE WENT TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL AS ME, BUT I NEVER TALKED TO HER. SHE RAN WITH A MORE POPULAR CROWD...
OH YEAH! SHE DATED THAT GUY WHO ALWAYS SPAT ON YOU!
UH, YEAH, MOST OF HER FRIENDS HATED ME. I WONDER WHY SHE INVITED ME TO THIS?
MAYBE THEY'RE JUST GOING TO POINT AT YOU AND LAUGH?
YEAH... AFTER THEY'RE DONE THROWING ROCKS AT ME.
OOH! CAN I COME? I WANT TO COME!
SLOZ!

by LR
the rant
How are you? I feel great!
Wow! "Life" sure is sweet. How about yourself?
I'm so so, So... what kind of DRUGS are you on to be so happy?
well... as corny as it may be. I'm "high on life"
Yeah, right. so what kind of CULT do you belong to? It's not like that. I'm in love.
Oh, I get it. you've found a girlfriend That's why you're in joy.
No girls, cults or drugs. All I've done is opened my personal Treasure
O.K. So, you've come across some great riches This isn't about money. My treasure is richer than gold!
So, why are you so damn happy? Because... I have the ability to be. Appreciation and comfort for this existence.

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BY CECIL CHILLINGS

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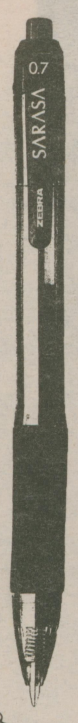

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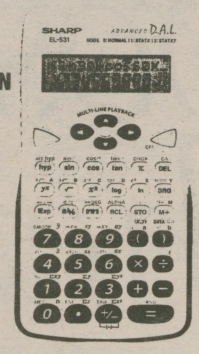

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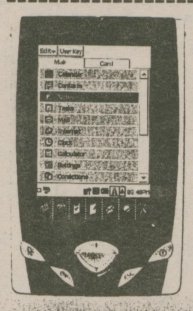

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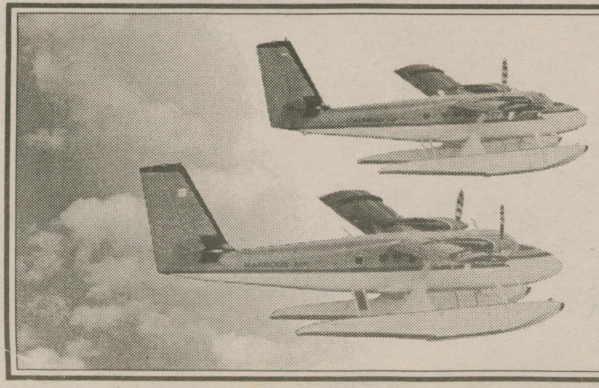

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